

Southend, Leigh, Shoebury Yellow Advertiser

Wednesday, August 3, 2011

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FUNDRAISING TEEN NEEDS YOUR HELP

By Suzi Muston

KIND-HEARTED Scarlett Saunders has already raised thousands for Great Ormond Street Children's Hospital.

Now she needs readers' help to keep raising money for the hospital that saved her life, and for another charity working in Africa.

Scarlett is one of the ambassadors of the hospital's Kiss It Better campaign, which raises money for research into childhood cancer.

She battled through a particularly aggressive form of Myeloid Leukaemia - with the love and support of her family and a devoted team of surgeons and nurses at Great Ormond Street.

Scarlett, now 15, was diagnosed with the illness when she was just nine years old.

Her mother, Rebecca, said initially Scarlett had a sore throat and kept being given antibiotics by her doctor. But it got steadily worse, so Rebecca took Scarlett to Southend Hospital where they took a blood test for glandular fever.

Rebecca said: "I thought that was awful as you could be ill for months with that. But later that day, we had a call from the hospital who said it was suspected Leukaemia.

"I can't explain how that felt, it was such a terrible shock."

Scarlett was transferred from Southend to Great Ormond Street Hospital for emergency treatment.

Rebecca said: "The staff said that if we had left it another day, she could have died.

"She had to go into theatre straight away and have a Hickman line fitted to administer the chemotherapy. She was in there for five hours."

Becky and Scarlett were determined to not let the disease win.

Scarlett joined all the children's activity groups at the hospital during her stay, and helped keep the other youngsters positive.

Scarlett said: "I used to look



CHARITABLE: Fathom McCormack, from Brazen Hussy in Leigh, is providing Scarlett Saunders (right) with clothes to wear in the Teen Queen UK competition.

Picture by Mark Cleveland

around the ward and see all the other young cancer patients laying there, so I would talk to them. Mum would always make me get up and do things.

"She even took me to the theatre in the West End while I was still a patient."

Rebecca said: "I lived at Great Ormond Street for six months and slept on a put-up bed. Scarlett's dad was there every day, too."

"We were always with her - it was such a difficult time - but thankfully she has been in remission for the last five years."

As part of her gruelling treatment, Scarlett lost all her hair, but it has since grown back, and mum Becky says it's better than ever.

Scarlett, who attends Deanes School, in Thundersley, has worked

tirelessly for the last five years, to put on fundraising events, including fetes and sponsored walks.

She has raised almost £10,000 for Great Ormond Street, and is determined to keep going.

Scarlett's fundraising efforts even took her to 10 Downing Street, where she met the then Prime Minister Gordon Brown and his wife Sarah, who hailed her as an 'inspiration to other people'.

The teenager has set herself another challenge for which she hopes to be flown out to Ghana where she will be able to help schoolchildren.

She has been named as a finalist in the Teen Queen UK competition and is aiming to raise as much money as possible for the Miss Charity Princess section of the

competition.

Despite her success on the beauty scene, Scarlett also hopes to become a nurse to help cancer patients.

Becky said: "Scarlett likes the beauty pageants but nursing is her dream so she can help other cancer patients towards recovery."

Scarlett also plans to specialise in aesthetic make-up for patients.

In the meantime, she is arranging two events on Monday, August 24, to raise more money for charity.

The first is a sponsored walk from the Virgin Active gym in Benfleet to Southend Pier and the second is an event at The Edge bar, in Basildon town centre.

To help Scarlett raise more cash, visit www.justgiving.com/scarlett-saunders

Hunt for T-shirt

POLICE investigating the death of Jeanette Goodwin in Quebec Avenue, Southend, on Sunday, July 24, are appealing for help in tracing a piece of evidence.

Detectives need to locate a men's round-neck red T-shirt, which is believed to have some kind of logo on.

Officers believe the T-shirt may be in the Lancaster Gardens or Southchurch Road area of Southend.

Teenager missing

A TEENAGER has gone missing from her home after she took the family dog for a walk last Thursday.

Linda Frilander, 17, left Coleman Avenue, Westcliff, at around 2pm, but has not returned.

Linda is 5ft 3ins tall and of medium build with brown shoulder-length hair and green eyes - if you have any information, contact police at Southend on 0300 333 4444.

Advice for parents

POLICE in Southend are warning parents to be aware after a young girl was attacked in Leigh last Friday.

The 10-year-old was walking along Rockleigh Avenue at around 11.30am when a man in a dark Transit van pulled up and asked her to get in.

She described the man as white, 'middle aged' with a deep voice and local accent. Anyone with any information should contact 0300 333 4444.

INSIDE this week



Cheers!
Shoebury
pub wins
award

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Yellow Advertiser

Yellow Advertiser Ltd,
Acorn House, Great Oaks,
Basildon, Essex SS14 1AH.
The office is open between 8.30am-5.30pm from Monday to Thursday and until 5pm on Friday.

Editor: Greg Fidgeon
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Distribution: 01268 503380
Leaflet sales: 01268 503386
For all reader travel bookings and enquiries call 0845 226 7747

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Printed by Newsquest, Oxford. The Yellow Advertiser Ltd is registered as a newspaper by Royal Mail.

Recycled paper made up 80.3 per cent of the raw material for UK newspapers in 2005.



IF you are looking for something to do during the summer holidays, why not visit Sea Life Adventure?

The South East's premier aquatic attraction offers a fantastic day out for all the family, thanks to its amazing displays and interesting talks.

We have 10 family tickets to the aquarium to give away, each admitting two adults and two children to the themed aquarium, which allows visitors to come face to face with many marine creatures.

Creatures from the Thames Estuary include Rays, Crabs and Starfish, while tropical creatures include Lionfish, Porcupine Puffer fish and a very famous Clown fish.

There's a Tropical Sharks exhibit to explore, as well as a nursery area, where newborn fish and any poorly residents are cared for.

Wander along Beach Walk, enter the Sea Cavern and HMS Sub Tropical and find out more about the Seahorses, Rockpool, Deepwater World and the Most Venomous area.

Sea Life Adventure, which has more than 40 unique displays, was totally transformed last year during a huge refurbishment.

The work gave the aquarium a new look as well as a new look, an extra mezzanine floor, a new Three Shells cafe, and the new Deepwater World tunnel complete with black tip sharks.

For further information call Sea Life Adventure on 01702 442200 or visit www.sealifeadventure.co.uk

For your chance to win one of 10 family tickets, answer the following question:

Q: Sea Life Adventure is the premier aquatic attraction in the...?

A: South East
B: South West
C: North East

To enter the competition, telephone your answer - A, B or C - to (0901 307 0154 along with your name, address, telephone number and email.

Alternatively text YAFISH (space) followed by A, B or C, and your name, full address and email to 63333.

Calls cost 51p from a BT landline. Calls from other networks may vary and mobiles will cost more.

Texts cost 50p plus your standard network rates.

If you do not wish to receive details on any other products or services, text EXIT at the end of your message.

Lines close on Thursday, August 11, 2011. Entries received after the closing date will not be counted but you may still be charged.

Competition



WIN! Family tickets to Sea Life Adventure

Chemists



Southend - Every Sun (10am-8pm) and Mon-Sat (8am-11pm), **Chemist@Southend**, 75 Queens Way; every Sun (10am-4pm), Tesco In-store Pharmacy, Prince Avenue, Westcliff; (10am-4pm), Sainsburys, 45 London Rd; (10am-4pm), Asda Stores, North Shoebury Rd, Shoeburyness.
Leigh - Sun-Fri (8am-11pm) and Sat (8am-6pm), Derix Healthcare Pharmacy, (opposite side of Leigh Primary Care Centre), 1065 London Rd.

Tides

High tide at Southend Pier:
Thurs: 04.20 5.9m 16.32
5.9m Fri: 05.05 5.8m 17.15
5.8m Sat: 05.52 5.5m 18.06
5.6m Sun: 06.45 5.3m 19.05
5.3m Mon: 07.49 5.0m 20.19
5.1m Tues: 09.03 4.9 21.44
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Sign up to celebrate theatre's centenary

By Paul Giles

THE Palace Theatre has received a £50,000 grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund to celebrate its centenary next year.

Southend Theatres and The Palace Theatre Club will use the money to create a year of events the community can get involved in.

Projects will include a variety show, recreating the Palace cinema, making a film with local schoolchildren and holding a community play.

One of the main projects at the theatre will be to create a catalogue of memorabilia from shows over the years.

Volunteers are needed to go through the archives and put posters, show brochures and photos in an online archive.

Emily Malcolm, the theatre's community and education manager said: "This project will be a great celebration for a theatre that is close to the hearts of its local community."

"By creating an archive, we can show everyone what a rich and colourful history the Palace has. "We need volunteers to help us create and maintain our archive because we want the local community to feel like it is theirs."

Anyone who would like to help will be put into a team to work on the one-off project.

Successful applicants will be trained in methods of curation and will develop a planned online archive.

To become a volunteer, contact Emily on 01702 390472 or e-mail emilym@southendtheatres.org.uk



MEMORABILIA: Emily Malcolm is inviting volunteers to help catalogue items at the Palace Theatre.
Picture by Mark Cleveland

Nesting birds slow down pier redevelopment

A PLANNED redevelopment of the end of Southend Pier has been scaled down after delays caused by birds nesting underneath the structure.

A £3million multi-use cultural centre and seating area was due to be completed this summer, but hundreds of ruddy turnstones have delayed the work.

Southend Council has now revised

the project and will be scaling down the centre by 20 per cent.

The building that was going to be situated at the end of the pier was going to be 450sq ft.

In the revised plans, the centre will now be 360sq ft.

The centre will be used for performing arts, conferences, weddings and exhibitions.

Original plans also allowed for a 730sq ft extension being built alongside the pier head where the centre was going to be situated.

The extension has now been scrapped from the plans and the centre will be situated on the pier head.

Derek Jarvis, councillor for culture and tourism, said none of the original details of the centre would be lost.

He said: "We really wanted to move this forward but because of the birds, we had to do an environmental impact check."

"Now we can start work and the plan is to have the centre complete by the summer of next year."

The proposals will go to the development control committee in September.

What do you think? Write to Yellow Advertiser, Acorn House, Great Oaks, Basildon, Essex, SS14 1AH, or e-mail letters@yellowad.co.uk

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More options for accommodation

SOUTHEND Council has been working in partnership with the national tourism body, VisitEngland, to increase the number of accredited accommodation properties in the town.

This has resulted in a further 13 properties being star-rated or receiving the new Visit Southend listed status since June.

The Council and its partners can now promote these properties in official publications and on websites as part of the town's local tourism offer.

Summer fun for children

THE Family Information Service is providing details of all the activities being laid on across the borough this summer for children, young people and families.

A whole host of activities are on offer, ranging from events in children's centres to sporting and drama workshops - there really is something to suit everyone's interests.

To find out more, visit the OpenFamilyServices Directory by clicking on www.openfamilyservices.org.uk/ofsf/ or contact the Family Information Service on 01702 215007.

Outdoor jazz at Priory Park

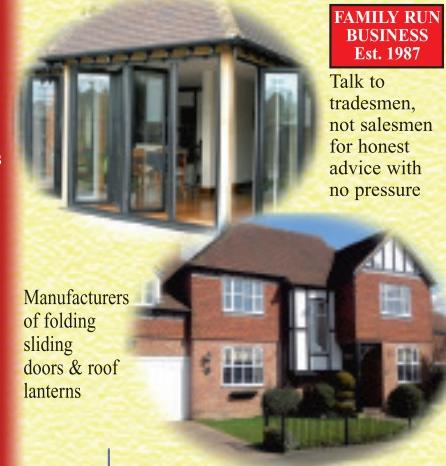
VISITORS to Priory Park, in Victoria Avenue, will be treated to a session of jazz this Saturday.

A performance will take place between 3pm and 5pm at the bandstand in the park.

Entry is free and people are advised to bring chairs or a blanket to sit on as only a limited amount of seats will be provided.

For all the latest Southend news, log on to www.yellowad.co.uk

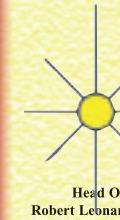
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ON THE RUN: Local schoolchildren try out the refurbished track.
Picture by Mark Cleveland

Athletics track receives revamp

By Paul Giles

A NEW athletics track and field event area at Garon Park was unveiled last week.

The sporting facilities are now in mint condition following a £200,000 investment and have received a Class A Track Certificate from UK Athletics.

The official accreditation means the facilities are recognised as hav-

ing the highest status and mean UK Athletics competition could be held there in the future.

Southend Council's executive councillor for culture and tourism, Derek Jarvis, believes the improvements will enhance Southend Leisure and Tennis Centre as a whole.

He hopes they could now be used as a pre-Olympic Training Camp ahead of the London 2012 Games

next year.

Councillor Jarvis said: "These excellent facilities have been upgraded to the highest level."

Work in the revamp included a Polytan WS athletic track being installed, which is porous to allow surface water to drain away.

The pole vault facilities have also been improved to adapt to changing wind directions.

The council has also registered the

sports centre with the London Organising Committee for the Olympics Games (LOCOG).

Mr Jarvis added: "One of the attractions of the sports centre is the swimming pool and we have the British diving team training there.

"If any other countries come and visit, they will see all the other facilities the centre offers.

"We would be pleased if another team wanted to use the facilities."

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Library to hold movie screening

A SPECIAL screening of Nanny McPhee and the Big Bang will be taking place at Southend Library.

It will be shown on Wednesday, August 10, at 11am.

A ticket for the film costs £3.50 and one adult gets in free with one paying child.

Help find mediator

POLICE want to trace a man who intervened in an altercation in May.

A brief verbal altercation took place outside Frankie & Benny's restaurant, in Southchurch Road, Southend, at 4pm on Monday, May 9.

This happened between a man who was walking a ginger-coloured dog and a woman who was with her two children.

At one point during this incident, a man spoke to both parties before walking away. Police are now keen to trace him regarding this matter, although no description of him is available.

PC Hellier can be contacted at Southend Police Station on 0300 333 4444.

Flights selling quickly

EASYJET has sold twice as many flights to Alicante than to any of its other seven new destinations from London Southend Airport since seats went on sale on Tuesday, July 26.

So far, Alicante is proving the firm favourite for spring sun seekers, followed by Malaga and Faro.

Hugh Aitken, easyJet commercial manager, said: "easyJet's arrival at London Southend Airport has proved a big hit with savvy passengers across the region looking for the best value prices to sun and city destinations."

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It's official - Parsons Barn is the best pub

By Paul Giles

THE Parsons Barn has been named Pub of the Year by listeners of Southend Radio.

Thousands of locals voted for the pub, in Frobisher Way, Shoeburyness, when the station launched its competition to find the best boozer.

After all the votes had been counted, the Parsons Barn was the clear winner of the competition, demonstrating its importance as a community pub for residents in the town.

Landlord Mark Wenn was delighted with the accolade.

"This award just goes to show what we can achieve when we work together," he said.

"When I came here two years ago, things were very different and a lot of effort has been made by our staff and the community to make the Parsons Barn a pub to be proud of."

"We now have a friendly, welcoming pub where everyone can enjoy themselves and we go the extra mile to make our pub extra special."

The pub has hosted a variety of events to entertain drinkers, including turfing the floor for the World Cup last year.

To celebrate the British Grand Prix, the pub created a miniature race track using Scalextric.

Mark added: "Above all else, we love to have fun and get involved to help others, and I

think that is what has really appealed to our customers and led to us winning this award.

"The result was a complete and utter shock - when the radio rang to tell me, I thought they were pulling my leg. I honestly couldn't believe it."

"Now we have to continue doing what we do best and make sure we hold on to our title next year."

Among the things highlighted by voters was the warm welcome they always get, the friendly atmosphere, great food and community spirit.

CHEERS: Mark Wenn and Carol Newby toast The Parsons Barn.

Picture by Mark Cleveland

What do you think? Write to Readers' Letters, Yellow Advertiser, Acorn House, Great Oaks, Basildon, Essex, SS14 1AH, or e-mail letters@yellowad.co.uk

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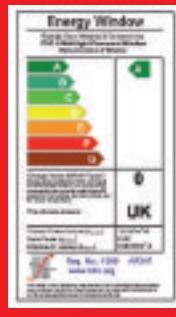
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Business profile

Bid for New Empire Theatre

By Suzi Muston

ONE of the region's biggest children's play and entertainment companies could be setting up a centre in Southend.

The Partyman Company has submitted a bid to purchase the New Empire Theatre, in Alexandra Street, as part of a £1.5million project.

The firm says it will create around 60 new jobs and the centre will provide arts, a 500-seat theatre, entertainment, play and education.

The young entrepreneur behind the bid is James Sinclair – aka Jimbo the Partyman – founder of the Partyman Company.

He wants local theatre groups and dance schools to contact him to discuss how they could work together for the people of Essex.

James said: "Everyone knows these days theatres are forever up against a struggle to make money and attract the right shows and groups to make them successful."

"By making the New Empire Theatre into a huge children's play centre, a 500-seat theatre and Ofsted registered day nursery, there is no doubt the whole business could pay its bills and perhaps see some profit, rather

than constantly face the financial pressure of running a modern day theatre."

"With a tourist attraction and educational mix in the play centre and day nursery on the ground floor and a superb children's community arts theatre upstairs, I'm confident this would see the theatre's survival."

The New Empire Theatre is currently owned by Shea Properties and is being marketed for sale through Dedman Gray.

The theatre was built in the late 1800s before becoming a cinema in the 1920s as the Rivoli and later the ABC until it closed in 1998.

A community theatre group later took up the lease, but the venue has now been empty for several years.

Southend Council's portfolio holder for culture and leisure, Councillor Derek Jarvis, believes the latest development will fit into the authority's plans for the area.

"We have a central plan to revitalise the whole area," he said. "I believe this would fit into the prescribed use for this building. It will attract more people to the area."

Any groups interested in working with Partyman Company should call 01268 330714 or send an e-mail to marketing@partymen.co.uk



FUN TIMES: James Sinclair is hoping to open a Partyman centre in Southend.
Picture by Martin Dalton

Let me entertain you

By Martyn Dolton

MOST teachers tell you not to clown around at school, but for one entrepreneur, it turned out to be the best thing he ever did.

James Sinclair, aka Jimbo, knew even before he left school he wanted to be a children's entertainer.

Now the 26-year-old owns three play centres in Basildon, Thurrock and Wembley, and his next ambition is to turn the Partyman Company into a national brand.

James was just 15 when he decided he wanted to be a children's entertainer and created his alter ego - Jimbo.

From his Nan's spare room, The Partyman Company was born.

By the time he was 19, James had too many bookings for him to handle alone, so he set up an agency to recruit others.

Two years later, he opened his first play centre in Basildon - Partyman World of Play.

Now James is looking to set up nurseries in each of the play centres so the company can offer its services to all age groups.

He is extremely proud of what he has achieved so far, and said: "To think everything I have done over the past 10 years began in my Nan's spare room is crazy."

"Now I want to grow the company and make it even bigger and better than before."

"I have a great team of people behind me, so I know it could be possible."

To achieve his dream of becoming a national brand, James is looking to sell 40 per cent of the business to an investor later this year, whose cash injection will help make the dream a reality.

James' dreams are the 'key' to his success, as without dreams to aim for, he does not think he would achieve half as much.

In fact, his goals are so important, he has them on his desk in a picture frame so he can look at them every day for inspiration.

By June 2015, he aims to be a 'true' millionaire and three years later, in 2018, his aim is for the Partyman Company to be a national brand.

Despite these visions being huge, James said there were others that were even bigger.

At the top of his framed list, his goals are to be happy inside and to be a good person. Without achieving these, James said, he would not be able to achieve anything.

So, from his Nan's spare bedroom where he created his one-man company, James now owns an entertainment empire with six full-time entertainers, three indoor play centres, two day nurseries, and a one-stop party-man shop.

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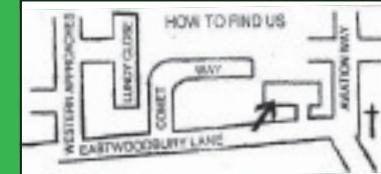


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Work gets underway on new airport hotel

A £10MILLION hotel complex will open at Southend Airport in time for the 2012 Olympics.

Contractors began work on the 129-bedroom venue, next to the Harp House Roundabout, on Monday.

Airport managing director, Alastair Welch, explained the hotel would provide high quality facilities for passengers, local business users and restaurant diners.

He said: "High quality and convenient hotel facilities are an essential ingredient of successful regional airports and an important part of our plans to modernise the airport."

"This hotel will greatly improve facilities for passengers, as well as pilots and flight crew using the airport, while also becoming an exciting new venue and resource for local businesses and people."

"Our vision is to make this one of the top places to eat in the region."

The five-storey building will feature a restaurant and exclusive private dining

room on the top floor, in which guests can enjoy panoramic views. There will also be state-of-the-art conference facilities.

In order to accommodate all types of guests, bedrooms will include 14 executive rooms, plus four suites – with views of the airport on the fourth floor.

Building firm Willmott Dixon will carry out the construction.

Hotel sector manager, Tim Wheeldon, believes the development is symbolic of the airport's continued renaissance.

He said: "This hotel represents a considerable investment and reinforces Stobart Group's plans to develop the airport into a striking and modern new facility."

"We are working to a tight programme with completion scheduled before the Olympics, and we will be utilising local labour and suppliers, as and when we can, during the build and fit out process."

The manager and the brand of the hotel has yet to be announced.

QUALITY: The £10m hotel complex will open in summer 2012.



The facts:

- A new control tower recently became operational at the airport, as did the new railway station.
- The station provides services direct to Stratford and to London's Liverpool Street Station.
- London Southend Airport's new passenger terminal will be completed

in the coming months, along with the runway extension.

- Aer Arann started operating two daily return flights from Southend to Galway and Waterford in March.
- easyJet will launch 70 departures a week to Amsterdam, Alicante, Barcelona, Belfast, Faro, Ibiza, Malaga and Mallorca from April 2012.
- For more on the airport's progress, visit www.southendairport.com

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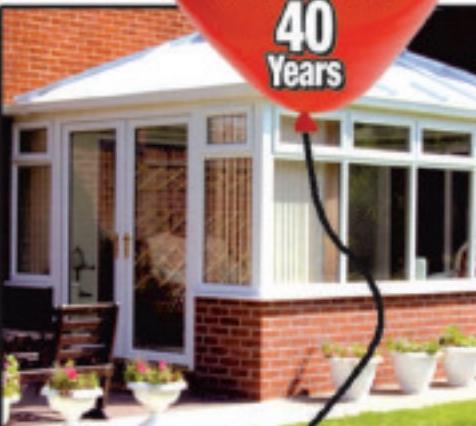
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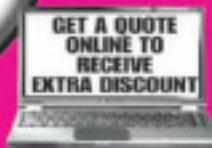
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Kirsty's waterproof request for Orca Lab

By Suzi Muston

A PASSIONATE wildlife conservationist needs weatherproof clothes for an expedition to Canada to monitor Orca Whales.

Kirsty Medcalf, 33, from Shoebury, will be working through the night, monitoring and observing the majestic marine creatures using theodolites, radio acoustics and telescopes from the Orca research station on Hanson Island.

Kirsty said: "The project is called the Orca Lab. I did a degree in wildlife conservation and am passionate about trying to preserve wildlife."

"The Orcas numbers have dropped to dangerously low levels because of human intervention. Our research is non invasive."

Over the last eight years, Kirsty has been building up practical skills to become more employable in the world of conservation.

She added: "I was lucky enough to get a place on the Orca Lab where I can learn more practical skills.

"The project will be physically demanding."

Kirsty, who is a size 12, desperately needs a waterproof jacket, trousers, a flash light, thermal sleeping pad, a camel drip water pack, a rucksack, and 10 x 50 resolution binoculars.

She added: "I am happy to mention any sponsors I may get who want to provide the equipment.

"I will be maintaining a daily blog about my experiences in Canada."

If you can help Kirsty, call 01702 291689. To find out more about marine conservation, log on to www.orcalab.org



HELP: Kirsty Medcalf needs some waterproof clothing.
Picture by Mark Cleveland

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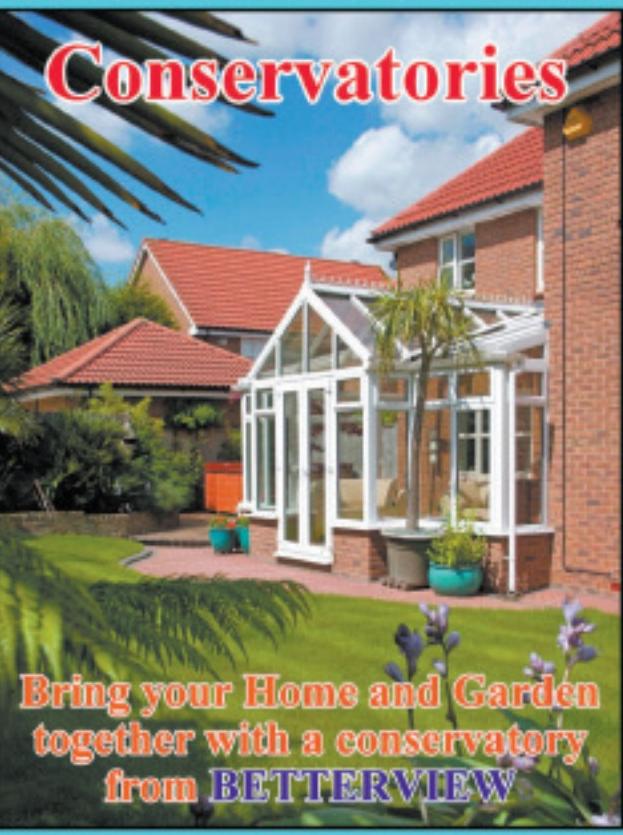
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Southend cinemas make history book

By Peter Henn

IT'S been 30 years in the making, but now Southend's cinemas have made it into a book.

Roy Dilley's latest book – Southend's Palaces of the Silver Screen – documents every single cinema to have opened in South East Essex.

A total of 31 movie theatres appear in the book, of which only two – the Odeon Multiplex in Southend and the Movie Starr in Canvey Island – survive as cinemas.

Mr Dilley, of Wren Close, Eastwood, has been an ardent moviegoer since he was a young boy.

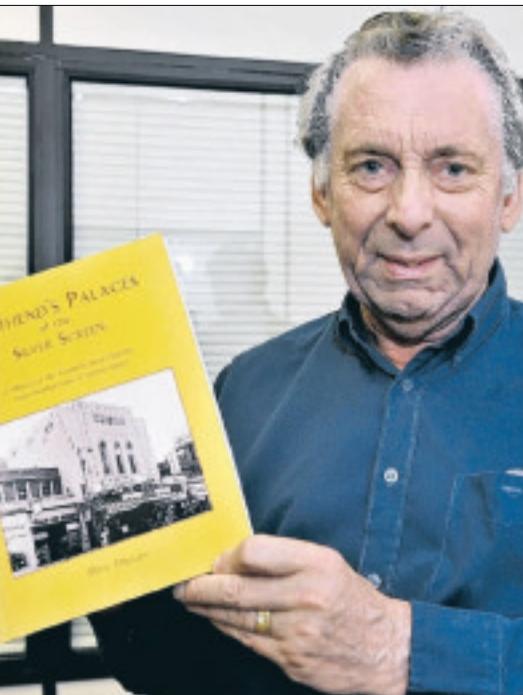
He said: "There's always something special about cinemas, and we've got a real heritage in and around Southend."

The 67-year-old has been researching the book, which follows on from The Dream Palaces of Southend, for 30 years. His first book was published in 1983.

Notable defunct cinemas in the area include the old Odeon in Southend town centre which, when it opened as the Astoria in the 1930s, was the third largest cinema in Britain.

The venue also had a stage where comedy legends Laurel and Hardy were among those to appear in 1952.

There is also a section in the book devoted to cinemas that were planned but never built.



from Waterstone's, in Southend, The Book Inn, Leigh, and Southend Museum.

IN PRINT: Roy Dilley with a copy of his book, *Southend's Palaces of the Silver Screen*.

Picture by Martin Dalton

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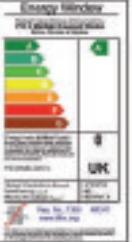
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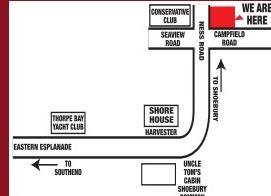
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Tudor day

By Paul Giles

LEARN more about the Tudors this weekend.

A range of activities will be on offer at Southchurch Hall, in Park Lane, at a Tudor Heritage event with music and exhibits.

Jim Bisgood, who not only plays a range of 40 instruments but allows the public to get a close view of how they were made, will be in attendance, along with a medieval storyteller.

Expert museum staff will also be on hand to talk about the building and Tudor life, while children can take part in a hunt around the park and claim a prize.

They will also be invited to enter the fancy dress costume for best dressed Tudor child, which will be judged at 3pm.

Entry to the hall costs £1, which includes a 10 per cent discount in the new gift shop.

In the grounds there will be dancers and musicians entertaining the crowds, and for the first time, there will be puppet shows telling a potted history of Tudors in around 30 minutes.

Claire Fox, marketing officer for Southend Museums, said: "We have spread the crowds over two days so visitors can have a relaxing experience. The new puppet show should also be very entertaining."

The event starts at 10am and runs until 3.30pm on Saturday and Sunday.



WELCOME: Sir Robert and Annie Tyler will be on hand to show people around Southchurch Hall on its Tudor day.

Picture by Mark Cleveland

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Green Flags retained

By Paul Giles

FOUR parks in Southend have kept hold of their Green Flag awards.

Chalkwell, Belfairs, Priory and Southchurch Parks have all retained the coveted status, which shows they are healthy, safe, clean, graffiti and vandalism free and environmentally sustainable.

Other judging criteria includes the maintenance of play equipment, buildings and landscape, heritage and nature conservation and community involvement.

Southend Council's executive member for culture and tourism, Councillor Derek Jarvis, said: "I am delighted that we have managed to retain the four Green Flags we were awarded by Keep Britain Tidy last year."

"We are very proud of the green spaces we have in the borough and our Parks Team works extremely hard to ensure they remain in such wonderful condition."

"In a densely-packed urban area like Southend, it is all the more important that we have quality parks and open spaces for people to relax in away from the hustle and bustle."



PROUD: Parks Management Officer Ian Brown and Councillor Derek Jarvis with members of the parks team at Chalkwell Park.

Picture by Mark Cleveland

Green Flag Plus Partnership chairman, Phil Barton, said the importance of good-quality green spaces cannot be overestimated.

He said: "They are central to the growth of our communities, both socially and economically."

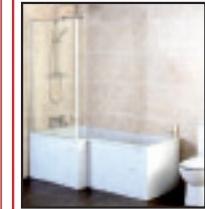
"The Green Flag Award Scheme, and its growth, is essential in driving up the standards of our parks and green spaces."



AWARDS: Priory Park (above) and Chalkwell Park (right).



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Police investigated over conduct in murder case

ESSEX Police is being investigated by the Independent Police Complaints Commission (IPCC) over its conduct in relation to Jeanette Goodwin.

The body of the 47-year-old was found at an address in Quebec Avenue, Southend, on the evening of Sunday, July 24.

Martin Bunch, 43, of Southchurch Road, has been charged with her murder and remanded in custody until an appearance at Chelmsford Crown Court on September 30.

However, Essex Police has referred the case to the IPCC.

In a statement, the IPCC said there had been a history of police contact with Ms Goodwin over the course of this year leading up to her death.

Commissioner Rachel Cerfontyne said the police watchdog was in the process of contacting her family.

She said: "I would like to extend my condolences to Jeanette Goodwin's family and friends."

"Because of the criminal proceedings underway, it would not be appropriate to give further information at this stage."

An Essex Police spokesperson confirmed the Force was being investigated.

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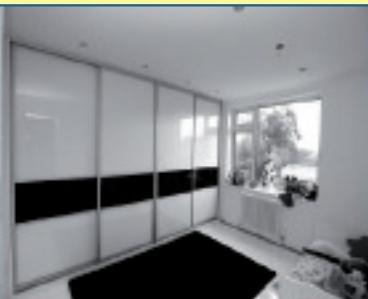
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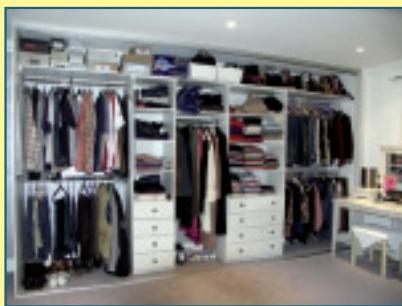


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Opinion and readers' letters

Mobile ID is great - in the right hands

THE introduction of the new 'Mobile Identification' will be a great boost for the police in their fight against crime.

It will also no doubt cut the cost and time involved in their investigations so long as this method is not passed over at a later date to members of the public such as occurred with the hand held speed-guns, as this will become like the law of vigilantes.

**Chas Cheesman,
Southend-on-Sea**

MPs have no values at all

I AGREE with the gentleman who wrote the letter entitled 'The elderly are not a problem' (YA Letters, Jul 20).

It's been said a lot recently by quite a few MPs and hearing it more and more, I find the remark insulting. Have they not got elderly parents? Some of them are nodding off at lunchtime in the House of Commons - they should look at themselves.

You never stop learning. I've found the elderly give a lot to charity and do voluntary work.

I did 10 years of volunteer charity work, as well as bring up our family and care for our

parents. And I don't get time to nod off at lunchtime.

I wish I had seen my dad get elderly - he died of cancer at 46 years of age, never saw us grow up, get married or see the grandchildren which we all look forward to, even great grandchildren.

MPs - have they not got any values at all?

My family, all generations, are born and bred British. My great grandmother was 103 when she died. What wisdom they had to pass on and the respect? Where has it gone today?

My one regret is we never paid £10 to go on the boats to Australia. There is nothing to look up to in this country!

I will stay around until the good Lord takes me - it's up to him when I go, not the Government.

Mrs P Dane, Ashingdon

We must protect our wildlife

IS the council determined to wipe out all the wildlife along what was once the Brook footpath - a finely balanced, ecologically valuable site in an over populated built-up area of Westcliff; semi-rural retreat and green corridor which links parks, allotments and school fields?

It is well known and valued

for the variety of its bird population. Last October, council workers cut back all the fruit bushes and trees there, leaving the berries rotting on the ground, just before a harsh winter.

They also cut back the overhanging bushes, which give sanctuary to fledglings in the spring. Then they made an unnecessarily wide road. Then they dug up much of the remaining grass and planted hundreds of fancy little shrubs, totally out of place and most were vandalised, thrown into the Brook or died from lack of water. Now we have long patches of ugly brown chippings instead of grass verges.

Have the council no idea of how a natural habitat should be managed?

And now they intend to cover the entire verges on the path parallel to Shakespeare Avenue with heaps of chippings.

I fear the same fate awaits the long stretch beside allotments and school fields, where grass verges remain, but for months they have failed to cut any grass there.

Don't they realise how delicately balanced the area is, full of butterflies and bees and other insects, vital for birds and flowers. Can't our Westcliff councillors, plus RSPB and Essex Wildlife group members exert influence to prevent this total destruction of a much loved and valued habitat?

If they cover all the remain-

ing verges with chippings, everything will die, and the whole ecology of the area will crash. Surely someone can stop this vandalising council before its too late!

**Mavis Timms,
Westcliff-on-Sea**

Drivers need to take more care

WHO are the scumbags who drive so near the edge of the road in torrential rain, spraying filthy gutter water onto pedestrians who are struggling with umbrellas and shopping, especially at the age of 71!

Show yourselves, so I can get a hold of you and give you a good kick up the backside.

**Mrs E Cooper,
Westcliff-on-Sea**

Our refuse collections are excellent

THANKS to Southend Council, we must have one of the most efficient and economic refuse collections in the country.

The quiet, prompt and weekly collections reduce the amount of noise and vermin found in wheelie bins postulated by some as an alternative.

The elderly are not required to drag heavy bins through their houses or leave them as a permanent eyesore in their front gardens, which some householders tend with pride.

The council and Cory Environmental are to be congratulated on their excellent service.

John Hooper, Leigh-on-Sea

Thorpe Bay pavements are just as bad

WHILE I agree with much of what Mrs Burgess says in her letter, 'Pavements need fixing' (YA Letters, Jul 27), I must take issue with her assertion that Thorpe Bay is immune to broken pavements.

The pavements here, as in other parts of the town, were left in an appalling state after cabling: a situation that our council completely failed to follow up.

But the real menace we have here now are the cowboy builders, causing thousands of pounds worth of damage driving mega-ton vehicles across the pavements with complete disregard for the damage they are doing.

The council are well aware of this, but do nothing. And to make matters worse, many of the so called 'improvements'

here involve ripping up front gardens in order to build the latest must have accessory - the in and out driveway.

Well, the Stepney Tractors have to go somewhere don't they! Unfortunately, their budgets don't seem to stretch to having proper road to pavement access built, resulting in even more of our pavements smashed and turned into potential death traps.

**Edwina White,
Address supplied**

Another poor decision

HAS Southend Council got the message yet that by increasing the parking charges by 100 per cent, it has reduced the number of motorists parking near the shopping facilities, which defeats the aim of increased revenue.

If the council had made the increase more reasonable, this would have a positive effect.

The negative increase must have also affected the revenue at the shops. Another poor decision by the council.

Mr K Potter, Via e-mail

Cyclists - ring that bell!

I RECENTLY took up cycling again after more than 50 years out of the saddle, in an attempt to get fitter.

As you might imagine I am slightly wobbly, particularly at slow speeds. Where possible I try to stick to dedicated cycle tracks and do enjoy the run along the seafront.

However, as one of the slower cyclists on the track, I am quite often overtaken by faster cyclists who silently creep up on me unawares. This is causing me a great deal of concern when they do not announce their intention to overtake.

I can imagine that there could be quite a collision, if I was to wander across their path at the moment they choose to overtake.

Please, please ring that bell - that's what you've got it for!

**Sonny Kosky,
Southend-on-Sea**

Why not give SKIPP a go?

BRIAN Ayling's complimentary comments on the SKIPP Committee's successful organising of the recent seafront shared-space crossing protest

along Eastern Esplanade highlights the fact that the Saxon King in Priory Park protest group - now at the head of a wide range of possibly surprising supporters - is fast becoming a polished little local, Big Society-like, democracy-on-the-streets-in-action outfit to be reckoned with (YA Letters,

Jul 27).

Indeed, they are emerging as an important conduit and rallying point for public disquiet in the scheme of local government affairs that affect us all hereabouts.

Not least, for my money, their proposal - eventually to be put before the council in professionally planned detail - that the current Victoria Avenue Library would make an excellent local arts centre in which to house the Beecroft Collection when it is vacated for the new town centre venue in Elmer Square.

This on the grounds that only two per cent of the Beecroft Collection - which includes paintings by Constable, Rossetti and Leyden plus a 19th Century costume collection that attracts viewers from as far away as Broadway, would you believe - ever gets to see the light of day at any given time because it has too long been housed in an unsuitable, too small, out of the way building (in effect just an ordinary large house) without even disabled access.

Council intent of it eventually being re-housed in the proposed mega-million Cliffs Museum - which may or may not come to fruition and, at any rate, is around two decades away even in a 'best case' scenario - may or may not ever be realised.

And that Victoria Avenue library - almost purpose-built and positioned for exhibition purposes such as these - may well get replaced by another high-rise block of flats or some-such in the meantime.

You never know with the council... there's one rising 30 feet from my kitchen window as I write.

So hop to it... SKIPP ain't just a bunch of tree-huggers y'know... give 'em a look at www.skipp-saxonking.org

It'll stop you jumping to the wrong conclusions.

John Haran, Leigh-on-Sea

Hospitals are there to fix, not feed you

I'VE just read what was said about the food in different hospitals by Elizabeth from Upminster (YA Letters, Jul 14).

Just lately I've been to different hospitals suffering with cancer. Each time I went, not knowing how long I would be there, I took sandwiches and a bottle of drink.

I didn't expect to get fed - it's a hospital, not a cafe, It's there to see to your ailments, not to have a three-course meal.

I'm sick and tired of people running down the NHS. The majority have never paid a penny and yet they never get turned away.

Think on, Elizabeth. Stop moaning and be grateful for the help you get, not the food.

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Football match

By Matthew Stanton

A CANVEY football club will welcome an array of celebrities to raise money for charity later this month.

Cagefighter Alex Reid, Razorlight's Johnny Borrell and actors Jim Carver and Stephen Bell will compete against each other at Concord Rangers FC, in Haven Road, on Sunday, August 14, from noon.

Various members of the EastEnders and Shameless cast will also take part alongside boxing stars Matthew Macklin, Kevin Mitchell, Ricky Burns and Barry McGuigan.

All funds raised will go towards Canvey charity, the Indee Rose Trust.

Organiser Johnny Eames said: "Last year's event far exceeded anything we were looking at doing. That has made me greedier to raise even more money this year."

"I'm privileged to know the parents of young Indee - Russell and Jane - and privileged to be able to raise money to help children suffering with the same disease."

"This year's event is hopefully going to be a lot bigger than last year's."

The event is organised by TKO Boxing Gym, in Canning Town and follows the success of last year's event at Canvey Island FC.

More than 3,000 people turned up last July to help raise more than £20,000.

Tickets for this year's event cost £10 for a standard ticket and £20 for extras. Children's tickets are priced at £2.50.

The Indee Rose Trust is a charitable trust founded in July 2009 with the aim of helping children who suffer from brain or spinal tumours.

The inspiration of the charity is Canvey youngster Indee Rose, who lost her life to a spinal tumour.

For more information, call the TRAD TKO Boxing Gym on 020 7474 3199 or visit www.tkoboxoffice.com

Improvements set for marshes

MAJOR improvements will be made to marshes across south Essex after a grant of £800,000 was secured.

Essex County Council will pump funding into land linking Basildon, Canvey Island, Corringham and Thurrock Marshes.

The council bid for £440,000 from the Two Seas Programme, which promotes regions next to the North Sea and English Channel.

Councillor Stephen Castle, Essex County Council's cabinet member for education and the 2012 Games, said: "I am delighted that we have been successful in our bid for funding to support the South Essex Marshes improvement project."

"With the London 2012 Olympic Mountain Biking events taking place in Hadleigh, these are exciting times for South Essex."

"This funding will make it easier for residents and visitors to enjoy the fantastic green spaces and superb attractions that exist throughout the marshes."

The key improvements will be:

- creating links between c2c mainline train stations and marshes.
- improving access with new paths, signage and infrastructure.
- promoting visitor attractions including Tilbury Fort, Coalhouse Fort, Thurrock Thameside Nature Park, Wat Tyler Country Park, Hadleigh Country Park, Hadleigh Castle, West Canvey Marshes and Canvey Wick.
- creating education programmes relating to the marshes history and biodiversity.

■ linking the London 2012 Olympic Mountain Biking venue at Hadleigh Farm to Wat Tyler Country Park, Two Tree Island, Old Leigh village, the Thames Estuary Path and Canvey, Benfleet and Leigh stations.

Veolia Pitsea Marshes Trust and the Veolia Mardyke Trust will provide an additional £150,000 to improve new signage and infrastructure along sections of the Thames Estuary Path.

The remaining funding for the project is being provided as part of the improvements being made in and around the London 2012 Olympic mountain biking venue in Hadleigh.

The intention is to link the event with the surrounding paths and green spaces.

Work on the project will start this month and is scheduled to last until 2014.

Protest over circus animals

SEVENTEEN councillors are campaigning to stop wild circus animals performing in Rochford.

Members of the Conservative group at Rochford Council decided to take a stand over their claims that it is wrong to host such events in the district.

The Great British Animal Circus will be located on private land in Rochford for three weeks in August.

A spokesman for the Tory group said: "The following members of the Conservative group at Rochford District Council wish to confirm that we are against the use of wild animals in circus events."

"Until Government legislation is passed to outlaw the exploitation of wild animals in travelling circus events, as a council we are unable to prevent this circus coming to

our district."

The councillors to sign the statement are Terry Cutmore, Mavis Webster, Toby Mountain, Simon Smith, Peter Webster, James Cottis, Jill Lucas-Gill, Keith Hudson, Jo McPherson, Mike Steptoe, Keith Gordon, Phil Capon, Tracy Capon, Bob Pointer, Malcolm Maddocks, Ian Ward and Colin Seagers.

Rochford District Council has an active committee for animal welfare and has adopted an animal welfare charter which can be accessed on the council's website.

The council was recently awarded the RSPCA silver award for its work in the care and well-being of animals and pets.

The Great British Animal Circus claims all its animals are treated humanely.

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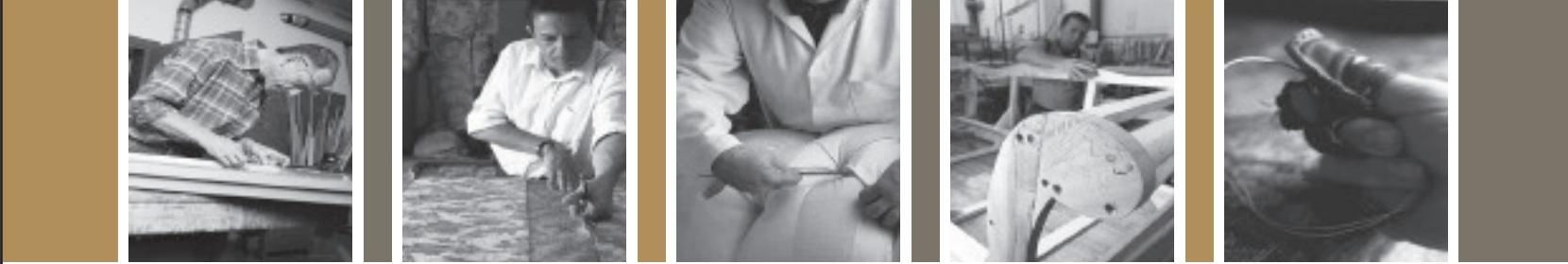
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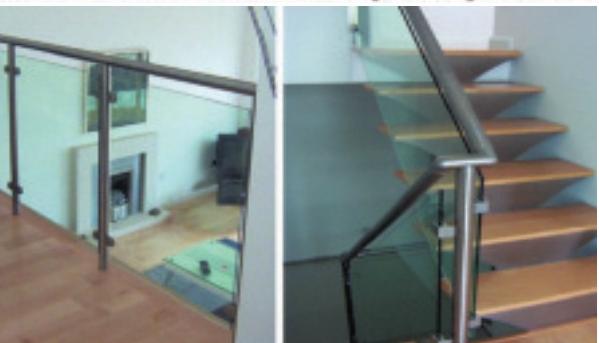
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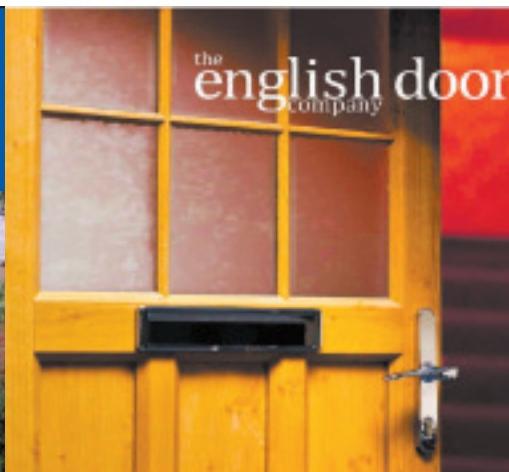
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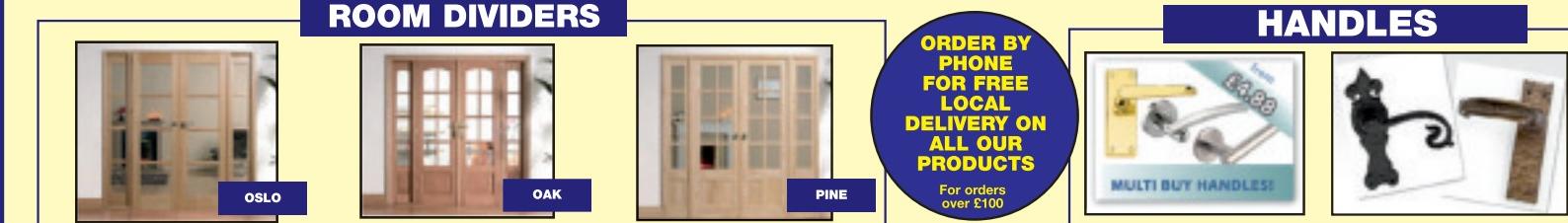
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Canvey goes back to nature

LIZ WADE takes a bit of time out to relax and discover Canvey Heights Country Park

A FORMER landfill site has not only been given back to the local community in Canvey, it has been returned to the area's wildlife which is flourishing thanks to a range of projects.

At the eastern point of Canvey Island is the relatively new Canvey Heights Country Park - a 36-acre site that has been transformed in recent years.

The land was reclaimed from the Newlands landfill site, which operated between 1954 and 1989 as part of a Greengrid project to turn the area into a high quality sustainable country park promoting environmental education.

It also aimed to increase the awareness of the importance of the estuary, the park's history and its environment among its visitors.

The area, which was named Canvey Heights because it was frequented by local ramblers and dog walkers who enjoyed its dramatic views, is the highest land elevation on the island and offers amazing views for miles around.

There are a number of benches dotted around where you can take different views across the creeks, marshes and along the Thames Estuary. You can see the salt marshes in Benfleet Creek, a wide range of specially designated conservation areas along the estuary, Hadleigh Castle, Leigh-on-Sea and Southend seafront, as well as across the Oyster Creek and out into an endless seascape.

We spent some time pointing out and admiring familiar landmarks

we could see in the distance, and watching the coming and going of boats on their way up the estuary to one of the many docks, or on the way out to sea to take their cargo to a whole host of destinations overseas.

As well as its great views, Canvey Heights is also a great place to fly a kite. There were a number of people on its elevated expanse of open land making the most of the wind with everything from children's first-time kites to those which were looping around in the skies above.

While human visitors frequent the site to take a stroll, walk their dogs or enjoy a picnic with amazing views, there are a rapid number of other visitors to the park, from insects and birds, to a range of butterflies and bugs.

This is thanks to a variety of projects that have, or are still, taking place at Canvey Heights.

Last year, work was underway to install a large hibernacula and wildflower area. The project, which was completed in January this year in association with the charity Buglife, aimed to turn a 2,000 square metre section of the park into a habitat for small creatures, while providing an attractive wildflower area.

Many volunteers worked tirelessly to strip topsoil from the area, before raking it flat and scattering wild flower and grass seeds across the area.

They also piled up logs and covered them with topsoil, making a

PEACEFUL: Get away from it all at Canvey Heights Country Park.

fact file

■ DIRECTIONS: Canvey Heights is situated off Creek Road, Canvey Island. Drive along the slip road that runs alongside Smallgains Hall/Pavilion, towards Smallgains Pond. There are two large entrance gates with a small side gate clearly labelled Canvey Heights Country Park.
 ■ ENTRANCE: Free
 ■ OPENING TIMES: Every day, all year round.
 ■ FURTHER INFORMATION: For further information about Canvey Heights visit www.castlepoint.gov.uk

home for insects.

Hoverflies, butterflies, beetles and bees are expected to make their home in the new wildflower area, along with native reptiles and amphibians such as slow worms.

Buglife is the first organisation in Europe that is devoted to the conservation of all invertebrates. It works to save Britain's rarest bugs, slugs, snails, bees, wasps, ants, spiders and beetles.

The charity is also busy at Canvey Heights as part of its South Essex Stepping Stones project, which surveys and enhances landscapes across the region to

create habitat links, or 'stepping stones' across Essex.

The project, which covers five key brownfield sites including Canvey Heights, Canvey Wick and Wat Tyler Country Park, will benefit wildlife including invertebrates, native reptiles and amphibians, and mammals such as water voles and protected bird species.

The project to turn the former landfill site into an area for the wider community to enjoy has been a huge success.

As well as its fantastic views, the park gives great scope for watching, listening and searching for

wildlife. Why not take the kids on a nature walk armed with a bug box or two and see what you can find?

Future plans for Canvey Heights are recreational activities for everyone to enjoy, and the park already has its own walking group.

The Rendezvous Walking Club meets by the entrance gates of Canvey Heights at 2pm on the first Sunday of every month.

All are welcome to join the group, which is named after a social club that burnt down in 1933.

The walks are a great way to learn more about the area and admire the views.



You can read all about previous days out Liz has enjoyed with her children by visiting our website - www.yellowad.co.uk - and clicking on 'Blogs'

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music & shows

Get Dolly fever

by Jenny Green

DOLLY Parton is, without a doubt, the First Lady of country music. Without her, we wouldn't have sing-out-loud classics like Nine to Five and Jolene, and the genre wouldn't be half as popular as it is today, either.

Dolly started her career as a child and has gone on to become an award-winning singer, songwriter, actress and author. She even has her own theme park, called Dollywood, in Tennessee.

Needless to say, Dolly is regarded as a real character and this essence is captured perfectly in Dolly: The Show.

The glitzy theatre musical celebrates Dolly's life, from

her early days to the arena concerts today.

In the lead role is Lancashire-based country singer Jeanne Jordan, who can do Dolly to a tee.

"She's so much fun and such a fabulous character," Jeanne enthuses.

"It's hard to do a full show on just one person, but I think we've got the balance right with Dolly."

"It's a great show with a great atmosphere, fabulous costume changes and the Dolly Mixtures dancers, who are just brilliant."

Jeanne, who was introduced to country music by the Gibb brothers - better known as the Bee Gees - has performed all around the world. She is also no

stranger to portraying Dolly, having 'been' the American star for the last 10 years.

In Dolly: The Show, Jeanne also gets to perform with her husband, BJ, who appears as Kenny Rogers, and her son Luke, who plays guitar.

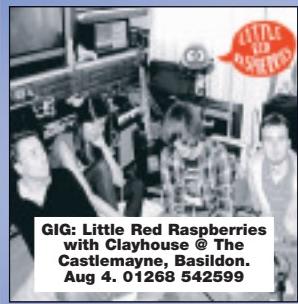
"He's got a big future in country music and is up for several awards," says Jeanne proudly.

"It's hard to separate work from our home life sometimes, but I wouldn't have it any other way."

"As long as I can relax with my glass of red after the show, it's all worth it!"

Dolly: The Show will be at the Palace Theatre, Westcliff, on Friday, August 12.

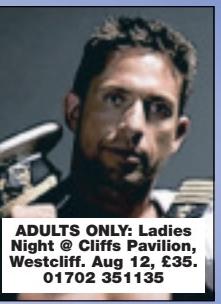
Tickets start from £18 - to book, call 01702 351135.



GIG: Little Red Raspberries with Clayhouse @ The Castlemayne, Basildon. Aug 4. 01268 542599



KIDS' SHOW: Bob the Builder @ Queen's Theatre, Hornchurch. Aug 10-13, from £10.50. 01708 443333

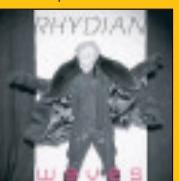


ADULTS ONLY: Ladies Night @ Cliffs Pavilion, Westcliff. Aug 12, £35. 01702 351135

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Waves by Rhidian
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This is the third album from operatic X Factor star, Rhidian Roberts. Don't expect it to be classical, though - this CD is bound to raise a few eyebrows because instead of fresh new tracks, Rhidian has decided to release his interpretation of songs from the New Wave era. A bold move!



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what's on

To have your event considered for publication, send the details AT LEAST 10 DAYS before the issue date to: What's On, Yellow Advertiser, Acorn House, Great Oaks, Basildon, SS14 1AH. You can e-mail us at: letters@yellowad.co.uk PLEASE NOTE: We cannot guarantee that all entries will be included. However, you can add the details of your event to our website at www.yellowad.co.uk

Saturday, August 6

■ Breakfast at Trinity's, Parish Centre, Rectory Garth, 9am-1pm, full English breakfast menu and alternatives, facilities for babies, groups welcome if booked in advance. 01702 742151.

■ Church Open Day, The Less Church, Hadleigh, 10am-3.30pm, under the auspices of The Wives Group, display of old and treasured bibles, refreshments, stalls.

■ Informal Concert, St Clement's Church, Leigh, 7.30pm, Lorna Stevens and Friends, Latin/Mediterranean music, tickets £5 from Book Inn, or on the door, refreshments on sale in interval.

■ Open Garden, 12 Hill Road (off Underhill Road), South Benfleet, 1.30-4.30pm, admission £1, cream teas, tombola, raffle, in aid of Cat Action Trust 1977.

■ Tudor Festival, Southchurch Hall, two day celebration of Tudor music and dance, puppet shows, stilt walking, storytelling, 10am-3.30pm, £1 entry, (craft activities may have an additional cost), also Sunday August 7.

■ Social Ballroom, Runnymede Hall, Kiln Road, A13, Benfleet, Latin American and Popular Sequence, 07748 707122.

■ Meditation, Shambhala Studios, 11 Leighcliff Buildings, Maple Avenue, Leigh, 1-2pm, every Saturday, beginners welcome,

no charge but donation requested - £3 or what you can afford.

■ Rayleigh History Walk, The National Trust, from Rayleigh Windmill, Bellingham Lane (off High Street), 3pm, £2 per person, (National Trust Members £1), further details Mike Stone 01268 775328.

■ Tenpin Bowling Club, Kursaal, Southend, (beginners welcome) 8-18 years, 9.30-11.45am, first week free, enquiries Bob 01702 505311.

■ Dad's and Kids Club, The Warehouse Centre, 7 Brook Road, Rayleigh, Saturdays 10.30am-1.30pm, free admission, games, activities, arts and crafts, for boys and girls 5-17 years with their fathers and father figures. 01268 779100.

■ Saturday Morning Club, St Michaels

Church Hall, Leigh Road, every Saturday 10am-noon, entertainment provided by choirs, soloists, musicians, refreshments, admission free, Inter-Church Caring for the Elderly and Disabled, 01702 437863.

■ Different Strokes Exercise Class, St Peter's Church Hall, Eastbourne Grove, Southend, for those who have had a stroke, every Saturday 2.30pm. 01702 465801.

■ Jazz Workshop, Southend Jazz Co-op, St Michael's Church Hall (rear car park entrance), Leigh Road/Mount Avenue, Leigh, every Saturday 10am-1pm, £5 per session (concessions available).

■ Meeting, Brush Strokes Art Group, Highlands Methodist Church, Leigh, Saturday mornings, for membership details call Bob 01702 555584.

■ Art and Crafts for Kids, every Saturday in Southend, 10am-noon, from ages 7 and above, call Marie 01702 329408.

■ Modern Sequence Dancing, St Andrew's Church Hall, Electric Avenue, Westcliff, every Saturday 7-9.30pm, details Henry 01702 293794.

Sunday, August 7

■ Free Tennis Afternoon, Kent Elms Tennis Club of Aviation Way, Southend, from 12noon, fun afternoon of tennis, any age and ability welcome, to book your place please register by email TayPtrock@aol.com or call Pat Taylor 01702 477475 or 07910 363116.

■ Canvey Miniature Railway Train Rides, situated at Waterside Sports Centre, Somers Avenue, Canvey, Sundays 10.30am-4pm, adults and children £1 each a ride, choice of two railways steam and electric locos, all welcome, weather permitting.

■ Open, The Hockley and District Horticultural Society trading, every Sunday 10am-noon, for all your gardening sundries, situated behind Hawkwell Village Hall, Main Road, Hawkwell.

■ Jazz, Westcliff Hotel, Westcliff, Ron Spack's Dinner Jazz, 1pm. 01702 345247.

■ American Football, Essex Spartans, junior players wanted aged 14-19, training Hannakins Farm, Rosebay Avenue, Billericay, Sundays noon-2pm, further details contact Coach, Alan 07794 210194.

■ Men's Futsal Football Sessions, Markhams Chase, Basildon, Sundays 8-10pm, all abilities welcome, £4, further details Paul 07882 456558.

■ Quaker Meeting for silent worship and meditation, Quaker Meeting House, Dundonald Drive, Leigh, Sundays 10.30-

11.30am, followed by conversation over tea and biscuits, all welcome.

■ Green Community of Southend and District, Church of St Barbara, St Phanourious and St Pauls, Salisbury Avenue, Westcliff, every Sunday 10am-noon. 01702 466435.

■ Sunday Club, TGH Evangelical Church, Kiln Road, Thundersley, (children 3-12 years), Bible stories, craft, singing, every Sunday 10.45-11.45am, no charge, further details 01702 554904.

Monday, August 8

■ Epilepsy Support Group, George Hurd Centre, Basildon, friendly discussion, speakers and activities, 7.45-10pm, further details 01268 270697.

■ Tenpin Bowling Challenge, SE Essex Epilepsy Support Group, Kursaal, Southend, open all, arrive from 6pm, bowling from 6.30pm, £10, to reserve places call 07711 905198.

■ Jazz, Oakwood, Rayleigh Road, Eastwood, Ron Spack's Jazzyet with Tony Petham saxophone/Alex Field guitar, 8.30pm. 01702 512819.

■ Basildon Players Amateur Dramatic Group needs new members, Mondays and Wednesdays 8-10pm, Woodlands School, Basildon, further details Jeff Levy 07951 681582 or email join@basildonplayers.com

■ Over 50's Social Session, Warehouse Centre, 7 Brook Road, Rayleigh, 2.30-4.30pm, £2.50 a session, board games, quizzes, pool, Monday, Wednesday and Thursdays.

■ Southend Chess Club, Ambleside Social Club, Ambleside Drive, Southend, Mondays 7.30pm, new members welcome, beginners or experienced players. 01702 345902.

■ Short Mat Bowls, Monday/Tuesday afternoons in Thundersley, beginners welcome, details 01268 779174.

■ Indoor Short Mat Bowls, Prittlewell Bowls Club, Priory Park, Southend, two mats available, with 5 day sessions, Monday to Friday, new players welcome, details Ray 01268 777666.

■ Whist, George Hurd Centre, Audley Way, Basildon, for over 50s, every Monday 10am-noon, details 01268 465854.

■ Senior Citizens Club, Ghyllgrove Centre, Butneys, every Monday 1.30-3.30pm, make friends, bingo, trips. 01268 293995.

■ Pensioners Stall, York Road Outdoor Market, Southend, all tops, skirts and trousers all at £1 each, every Monday and Thursday 8am-2pm.

■ Evening of Clairvoyance, Room 2, Paddocks, Long Road, Canvey, every Monday, doors open 7.30pm, admission £3, all profits donated to local charities, healing available after service 9pm, enquiries 01268 691922.

■ Healing, every Monday in Basildon from 10.30am-4pm, qualified NFSH healers, no charge, all donations to local Hospice, call 07956 353564 for an appointment.

■ Development Healing Circle, Face Salon, Burdett Avenue, Westcliff, an understanding of spiritual healing and prayer, every Monday 8-9.30pm, further details 00789 004744.

■ Fitness Walking, from Leigh Tennis Club, Highlands Boulevard, Leigh, every Monday and Thursday 7.15-8.15pm, further details 01702 715509.

■ Scrabble Club, Wesley Methodist Church Hall, Elm Road, Leigh Broadway, (opposite police station), friendly club, all standards welcome, every Monday 7-10pm, £2.50, just turn up or call 01268 727915.

Tuesday, August 9

■ Folk Music, The Hoy at Anchor Folk Club, The Ship, New Road, Old Leigh, 'Claud Bourbon', 8pm, 01702 715111.

■ Pathfinders Blind and Partially Sighted Group meets every Tuesday and Friday, Fryerns Baptist Church, Whitmore Way, wide range of activities and outings, Tuesday 9.30am-2pm and Friday 10am-2.30pm.

■ Art Class, Women's Institute Hall, Bellingham Lane, Rayleigh, 10am-noon, with artist Paul Alcock, further details 01702 615475.

■ Are you single and over 50? Come and join our friendship group, every Tuesday at South Benfleet Club, Benfleet, further details Maureen 01268 692998.

■ Singles Social Group, meets The Meadow Lark, Artillery Avenue, Shoebury (just past Asda roundabout), age group 50-65, every Tuesday 8pm. 07752 613021.

■ New and Nearly New Stall, outside St Martin's Church, Town Centre, Basildon, facing the gardens (if wet in church foyer), every Tuesday 10am-noon.

■ Table Tennis, Warehouse Centre, 7 Brook Road, Rayleigh, Tuesdays 7.30-10.30pm, all welcome, £3.50 a session. 01268 779100.

■ Table Top Sale, Outpatients Foyer, Southend Hospital, every Tuesday 9.30am-3pm, Breathe Easy Southend, helping support people with lung problems. 01702 258661.

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what's on

- Carpet Bowls, Eastwood Community Hall, by Morrisons, Tuesdays 1.45-3.45pm, come and try, no experience necessary, also Thursdays 3.30-5.30pm.
- Hockley Scrabble Club, Methodist Church Hall, Main Road, Hockley, every Tuesday 6.30-10pm, visitors and new members welcome. 01702 205833.
- Walking Club, Phoenix Striders, meet 7pm Markhams Chase Sports Centre, fun hour walking depart 7.15pm, every Tuesday and Thursday. 01268 415469.
- Social Tea Dance, Ashingdon Memorial Hall, Ashingdon Road, Ashingdon, Tuesdays 2-4pm, 01702 230480.
- Top Cats Social Club, (Southend Mencap), Castle View School, Meppel Avenue, Canvey, Tuesdays 7-9.45pm, for adults with learning disabilities age 25 plus, £2 per session, membership details 01702 341250.
- Tuesday Luncheon Club, Inter-Church Caring for the Elderly and Disabled, Avenue Baptist Church Hall, Milton Road, Westcliff, for people living alone or with their carers, further details 01702 478691/525141/340617.
- Depression: Self Help Group, every Tuesday 8-9.30pm, and Thursdays 12.30-2pm, we are a very successful and caring group, Michael 01268 527283.

Wednesday, August 10

- Meeting, Essex Handicrafts Association, St Barnabas Church Hall, Hadleigh, 7.30pm, visitors welcome. 01702 479862.
- Jazz Circle, Ekco Clubhouse, Thorndon Gardens, first right off Manners Way from Cuckoo Corner, 'Miles Davis Pt 2', 8pm. 01702 295982.
- Monthly Meeting, South Essex Amateur Radio Society, South Benfleet Primary School, High Road, Benfleet (opposite Smiths Wood Yard), 8pm, 'talk by Brian on his Marine exploits working on the Tankers'. 01268 692776.
- Monthly Meeting, Wickford Townswomen's Guild, Christ Church (behind Co-op), 1.30-3.30pm, visitors welcome, entry £2.
- Art Class, Leigh Sailing Club, Old Leigh, 10am-noon, learn to paint and draw with artist Paul Alcock. 01702 615475.
- Salsa, George Hurd Centre, Audrey Way, Basildon, for over 50s, every Wednesday 11.30am-12.30pm, no partner required. 01268 465854.
- Ballroom and Latin American Lessons, St Margaret's Church Hall, Lime Avenue, Leigh, every Wednesday 2.45-3.45pm, to

raise funds for church hall. 01268 281488.
 ■ Southend Vox Choir, Temple Sutton School, Southend, every Wednesday 7.30-9.30pm, lively, fun choir for adults (18+), call Jo 07969 216366.
 ■ Over 50s Session, Warehouse Centre, 7 Brook Road, Rayleigh, Wednesdays and Thursdays 2-4pm, badminton and short mat bowls, session price £3.30 includes refreshments and use of equipment. 01268 779100.
 ■ Leigh Singles Social Club, Wednesdays 8pm The Elms Pub, Leigh, age group 45-65 years, Sue 07917 573653.
 ■ Ladies Football, Futsal Fitness Sessions, Frymens Recreation Ground, community project supported by Basildon Council, £1 drop in sessions every Wednesday 7-8pm, ages 16-60, call Paul 07882 456558.
 ■ Rayleigh Country Market, WI Hall, Bellringham Lane, Wednesdays 8.30-11.30am.

Thursday, August 11

- Meeting, Leigh Evening Women's Institute, St Aiden's Church Hall, The Fairway, Leigh, 7.30pm, we get together, chat, drink tea, have a laugh, have speakers and demonstrations, come along to a free taster evening.
- Meeting, Take Heart Southend Cardiac Support, The Eastwood Community Centre, Western Approaches, Eastwood, 8pm. 01702 309042.
- Space Concert, Southend High School for Boys, Prittlewell Chase, South Essex Youth Symphony Orchestra, 7.30pm, tickets £8 adults, £6 seniors, 5 children on door or in advance, enquiries 01702 207912 or 07958 193390.
- Live Music, Castlemayne, The Knares, Basildon, with Mentally Yours plus Only Ghosts plus Darkhorse, 8-11pm.
- Learn to Paint Landscapes in Water Colour with Trevor Shaw, for beginners and improvers, in Hadleigh Thursdays 10am-noon, further details 01702 558282.
- Art Class, Westcliff United Reform Church, King's Road, Westcliff, 10am noon or 1-3pm, learn to paint and draw with artist Paul Alcock. 01702 615475.
- Coffee, Cake and Chat, WI Hall, Bellringham Lane, Rayleigh, ladies and gentlemen, join us every Thursday 2pm, Di 07952 148636 or Linda 07504 114762.
- Buddies Over 50 Singles Club at Anchor Pub, Benfleet, varied social events, come and make new friends, 8.30pm every Thursday, call Jill 01268 753667.
- Stalls in Outpatients Department, next to

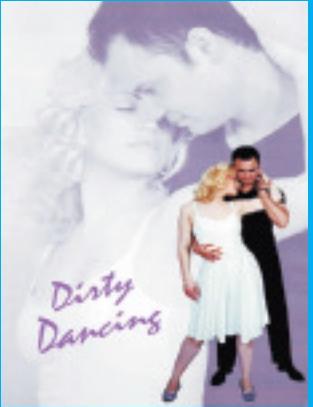
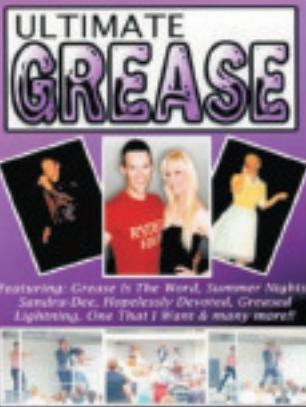
post box, Southend Hospital, books, bric-a-brac, hand knits etc, every Thursday 8.30am-3.30pm, all proceeds to Bosom Pals Appeal.
 ■ Ladies Dance and Prance, St Mark's Church Hall, Princes Street, Thursdays 7-8pm, all kinds of music and dancing, (non-profit making).
 ■ Ceramics, The George Hurd Centre, Audley Way, Basildon, for the over 50s, every Thursday 2-4pm, 01268 465854.
 ■ Drama Social Club, working for Animal Charities, St George's Hall (near Tarrots), Rushbottom Lane, Benfleet, new members needed, no acting experience required, Thursdays 1.30-3.30pm. 01268 697357.
 ■ Hit and Miss Table Tennis sessions, Hockley Table Tennis Club welcomes Juniors (under 16) between 5-7pm, coaching available (free), followed by those over 16 at 7.30-9.30pm, all ages and abilities, Thursdays, Trevor 07828 175493.

- Social Tennis, Crowstone and St Saviour's LTC, Victory Path, Chalkwell, Thursdays 2pm, for improvers, 23 visitors fee. 07931 711823.
- Yoga Classes, Unitarian Hall, Grange Gardens, Southend, 6-7.30pm and 8-9.30pm, non-profit making. 01702 616990.
- Why not try Carpet Bowls, The Salvation Army Hall, Elm Road, Leigh, Thursdays 2-4pm, £4, first 3 weeks free, details 01702 553546.
- Short Mat Bowls, Willows Park, James Hornsby School, Leinster Road, Laindon, every Thursday 7.30pm, first 3 weeks free, details 01277 625027.
- Clairvoyance, Shoebury Spiritual Centre, The Sandpiper Community Centre, Sandpiper Close, Shoebury, Thursdays 8-10pm, free healing, entry £3. 01702 476087.
- Healing, The Cedars, Castle Road, Rayleigh, fully trained healers by Essex Healers Association, Thursdays 10-11.30am, all welcome.
- Breastfeeding Support Group, The Hills Children's Centre, British Legion Triangle Building, High Road, Laindon, Thursdays 11.30am-1pm.

Friday, August 12

- Model Railway Exhibition, Chalkwell Park Methodist Church, corner of Kingsway and Eastwood Lane South, Westcliff, 10am-4pm, admission £3 adults, £1 children aged 5-15, refreshments, organ playing, railway films, children's train play area, all proceeds to a hospital in Sierra Leone. 01702 528591.
- Come and try Diving, Gloucester Park Swimming Pool, every Friday 8-10pm, learn to scuba dive, details Paul 07802 643734.
- Table Tennis, Laindon Community Centre, Aston Road, off High Street, for over 50s, any standard, friendly group, every Friday 11am-1pm, free parking. 07931 564105.
- Table Tennis, St Andrew's Church Hall, Church Road, Shoebury, every Friday 2-4pm. 01702 296708.
- Table Tennis, Markhams Chase Sports Centre, Basildon, every Friday 2pm, £2.50 per session.
- Modern Sequence Tea Dance, St James' Church Hall, Elmsleigh Drive, Leigh, Fridays 1.45-3.45pm, details Henry 01702 293794.
- Stone Carving, Sculpture plus Lettering, Studio Workshop, 39a West Road, Shoebury, professional tuition, traditional tools, Fridays 8-10pm, details Jim Davis 01702 292867.
- Evening of Clairvoyance, St Edmunds Hall, St Edmunds Close, (off Pantile Avenue), Southend, Fridays 8pm, healing from 7pm.
- Clairvoyance, Hockley Old Fire Station, Southend Road, Hockley, (next to Spa Pub), visiting mediums, Fridays 7.30-9.30pm.
- Southend Chess Club, Thorpe Bay Bridge Club, The Old School House, Southchurch Boulevard, Southend, Fridays 7.30pm, beginners or experienced players. 01702 345902.
- Chess, Cedar Centre, Castle Road, Rayleigh, Fridays, 7.30pm onwards, all ages and abilities welcome, Derek Stockings 01268 772923.

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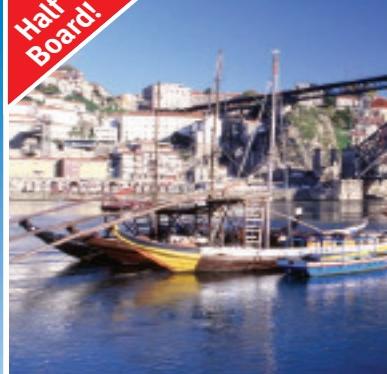
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The perfect guilt trip

by Caroline Davison

AHUGE hug from Mama Thandi welcomed me to the Cape Town township of Kayamandi. Mama's home would be the base for my 'voluntourism' trip - five days of work at a centre for orphans followed by two nights in a five-star lodge out of town. Voluntourism is becoming increasingly trendy. A chance to visit somewhere exotic, work and stay with local people, while giving something back. Though most of Kayamandi's 20,000 residents live in shacks, Mama Thandi's home was brick built, and thankfully cool. I soon felt at home, alongside her daughter, son-in-law and two granddaughters.

My place of work, the Kuyasa project, is a symbol of hope in this community - an independent organisation run by Christians. It opens its doors daily to hundreds of children and young adults aged six to 18, offering them a meal (perhaps the only one they'll get that day), an education, and also a monthly sponsorship programme for orphans.

I split my time between physical work and helping with lessons. At times, I thought my arms would

HARD AT WORK:
 Caroline Davison with children at the Kuyasa project.
 Pic: PA Photo/Handout



TRAVEL FACTS

Caroline was a guest of Virgin Holidays' Human Nature Collection, which offers six nights in Cape Town, including return flights from Heathrow, a four-night Community Building & Teaching Volunteering project, and two nights at Grootbos Private Nature Reserve with transfers, from £2,639.

Prices are based on sharing a standard room, mixed board (lunch or dinner), for early August departures. For more, call 0844 573 8346 or visit www.virginholidays.co.uk

drop off from painting, scrubbing, sanding, sharpening pencils, sweeping the yard and washing brushes.

I would occasionally dream of home and

my soft, comfy sofa. But then a child would run through the centre, shrieking and laughing, and I'd come back to my senses.

After dishing out 150 plates of food at lunchtime, I would give lessons to around 40 six and seven-year-olds, encouraging reading, and the learning of times tables and vocabulary.

Usually, I was in bed by 10.30pm, but being tired felt good - and a world away from my office job.

I left for my luxury lodge on a high, knowing the good work would carry on.

At Grootbos, a private reserve about two-and-a-half hours away from Cape Town, my private cabin seemed to go on forever, with stunning views across the Atlantic.

Although the resort was wonderful, this part of the trip still gave something back to the community.

The Grootbos Foundation - a subsidiary of the reserve - also runs horticulture and life skills programmes and an organic farming project, so I could enjoy my sun-lounger and its superlative views with a clear conscience.



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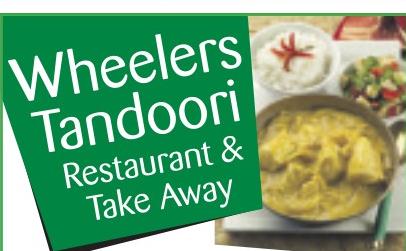
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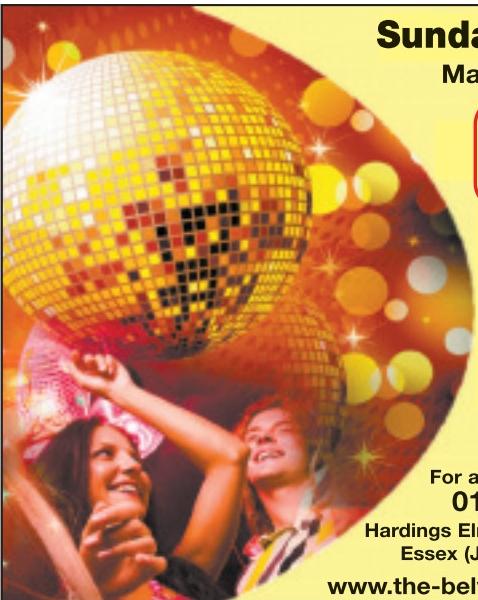
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Advertisement feature

Good reasons to eat at the Tandoori Parlour

A THUNDERSLEY restaurant goes out of its way to look after its customers, by offering free VIP cards and helping diners raise thousands of pounds for charity.

Tandoori Parlour, at 61-63 Hart Road, has helped raise thousands of pounds over the years for a range of charities including Barnardo's, the British Red Cross and Essex Air Ambulance.

Its Charity Nights give up to 50 per cent of profits to fundraisers for the charity of their choice. They are also outstanding value-for-money as prices per person are just £6 from Sunday to Wednesday, £7 on Thursdays and £10 on Fridays. What's more, if you organise your charity event for 60 or more people a DJ or karaoke is also free of charge.

The big-hearted restaurant also looks after its diners by offering them a free VIP card. The card, which can be used every day except Saturday evenings and throughout the year except Christmas, saves you pounds on its à la carte and buffet menus.

The card offers 'two for one' deals on starters and main courses from its à la carte menu from Sunday to Friday, and £3 off per person at its buffet evenings from Monday to Friday.

Anyone interested in a VIP card, which has to be presented to receive offers, can pick one up from the restaurant or ask for one to be posted.

Tandoori Parlour, which is the largest Indian restaurant in Essex and one of the first Indian restaurants to win the Tiffin Cup in 2005, is regularly featured in the Good Curry Guide.

The restaurant, which has the capacity for 450 people, has a downstairs dining area with bar and dance floor as well as its Crystal Room upstairs, complete with illuminated glass dance floor, laser light show, baby grand piano, and state-of-the-art sound and lighting.

Diners can enjoy a wide range of Indian and Nepalese cuisine at its extensive evening buffets, which offer the ideal chance to try different tastes.

Your buffet begins with a platter of starters silver served at your table before you enjoy more than 50 dishes from different provinces of India and Nepal.

The buffet costs just £11.95 per person from Sunday to Wednesday, and £12.95 on Thursday.

Its popular Banquet and Disco nights are held on Friday and Saturday offering silver served starters, extensive buffet as well as a disco with DJ entertainment. Both evenings cost £16.95 per person, or just £14 on Friday night for VIP card holders.

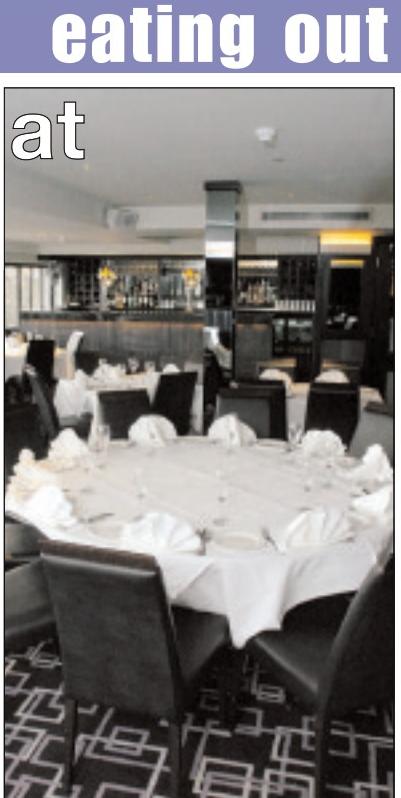
Its Sunday Family Buffet lunch is also great value-for-money at just £7.95 per person, with children under the age of 10 eating for free.

A full à la carte menu is also available at the restaurant alongside its buffets.

Tandoori Parlour, which is fully air conditioned and licensed, with full disabled facilities, and a free large car park opposite, also has a takeaway service.

The modern and vibrant restaurant is now taking Christmas bookings for disco and karaoke nights from late November, from just £11.95 per person.

Tandoori Parlour is open from noon to 2.30pm and 5.30pm to midnight from Monday to Saturday



(last admission 10.30pm), and from noon to midnight (last admission 10.30pm) on Sunday.

For further information or to make a reservation call Tandoori Parlour on 01268 793786 or 01268 793877, or visit www.tandooriparlour.com

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eating out

See what Los Amigos can offer



WICKFORD'S first South American Steak House has opened its doors, with the promise of serving fantastic food from local providers.

Los Amigos was welcomed into the community with a grand opening last month that was joined by local dignitaries including the leader of Basildon Borough Council, Tony Ball.

Since then it has been making its mark on the town, thanks to excellent food and exceptional service.

Los Amigos, at 35 High Street, has pledged to buy local, in order to support other businesses in the area, and is also reflecting the current climate in its prices, which all offer great value-for-money.

Diners will find a wide range of different cuisine at Los Amigos, as there is nothing else like it in town.

It has a wide menu serving ribs, fajitas, seafood, burgers, steaks and pasta, as well as combination meals. There's also a children's menu with ice cream, and a range of vegetarian options.

Starters include everything from Nacho Dippers and BBQ Ribs, to French Onion Soup and Chilli Con Carne.

You will be spoilt for choice with its main courses including fillet, rump, sirloin and rib eye steaks, as well as Uruguayan Special Steaks such as Rump Churrasco.

Its Combination Meals include Trio Amigos, Surf and Turf, garlic chicken and a Gran Parrilla mixed grill, while its seafood dishes include salmon, Peruvian spiced

cod and sea bass options, as well as the Zarzuela seafood platter.

If meat is your thing then choose its delicious Caribbean or Amigos Ribs, or make the most of its choice of different burgers including its Texas BBQ burger.

All of this is joined by an extensive list of side dishes from sauté chips, grilled tomatoes and corn on

the cob, to blue cheese sauce, garlic bread and chilli butter.

Los Amigos' owner, who has more than 20 years of experience in the industry, also runs another successful restaurant in Essex.

He is now looking forward to a bright future with the restaurant and welcomes everyone to Los Amigos.

Los Amigos is open seven days a week, from noon to 2.30pm, as well as during the evenings from 6pm to 10.30pm, from Sunday to Thursday, and from 6pm to 11pm on Friday and Saturday.

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Contact Tina
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Advertisement feature

eating out

Diners can taste exquisite meals at Regency Spice

ONE of the largest restaurants in Essex has become a firm favourite with diners since opening its doors last year. Regency Spice Restaurant, Lounge and Diner, in Back Lane, Rochford, has been serving exquisite food that looks sensational and tastes divine since opening its doors in May.

Its menu includes a vast range of dishes from chef's recommendations to Regency specialities.

There are a range of tandoori specialities, balti dishes, Nepalese and Bangladeshi specialities, Thali and Kurzi specials, Persian, chicken, meat, fresh fish and shellfish dishes, as well as Thai specialities, vegetarian options and Regency Combination Platters for two or four people.

These are complemented by a wide range of starters, rice dishes, nan breads, sundries and pickles, and desserts. The fully licensed and air-conditioned restaurant also offers an extensive drinks list including a wide range of beers and wine.

Regency Spice offers a five-course Midweek Special (served Monday to Thursday), which is also available for £12.95 and includes any starter and main, rice, nan bread and tea or coffee.

The restaurant also has a Sunday



Buffet, served from noon to 11.30pm, when customers can eat as much as they like from a large selection of delicious dishes for £7.95 per person, or £3.95 for under 10s.

Tony, the owner of Regency Spice, has been in the catering business for 40 years. He prides himself on the restaurant, which is a wonderful place to celebrate a range of special occasions, from engagements and weddings, to birthdays and anniversaries.

It has ample space for large parties thanks to its separate function room, which is complete with dancefloor, sounds, lights and smoke, as well as karaoke.

The restaurant, which has full disabled access, can also host charity nights for which it will donate 50 per cent to the charity of your choice.

Regency Spice also hosts cabaret nights throughout the year and up-and-coming evenings include Bless My Soul on Thursday, August 18,

and UB40 on Thursday, September 22.

Regency Spice, which has a full takeaway service including free delivery, is open from noon to 2.30pm and from 5.30pm to midnight, from Monday to Saturday, and from noon to midnight on Sundays.

To make a reservation or for further information about Regency Spice, call 01702 530422 or 01702 531324 or visit www.regencyspice.co.uk

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Mouth-watering menus

Advertisement feature

ARANGE of mouth-watering temptations are served at Westcliff's Spaghetti Junction.

The popular restaurant, at 767 London Road, offers some of the finest Italian and continental dishes in town.

As well as its excellent pizzas and pastas and its variety of European dishes including paella, chicken calvados and beef espetada, Spaghetti Junction also offers an extensive menu including Dover sole, trout, sea bass, squid and skate, and steak, veal, chicken and duck.

The restaurant, which has undergone a recent 'facelift', also has a Chef's Specials board to choose from, and a Children's Menu offering a variety of dishes for just £3.95, from Monday to Saturday.

If you have room for more then its desserts are to die for! The menu offers a wide choice including delicious pancakes, waffles, apple pie and chocolate fudge gateau, as well as a range of ice creams



such as the old favourites of Butti-Nutti, Minty Miracle and Walnut Wonder, along with its newest additions of Forest Fantasia, Eton Mess and Almond Adventure.

Spaghetti Junction offers a range of deals from Monday to Friday evenings. Diners can enjoy a Pizza and Pasta Menu, including a starter and pasta or pizza, for £7.95; its Special Duo Menu including main course and dessert for £7.95;

and a three-course set menu for the fantastic price of £14.95. On Saturday evenings there is also a special three-course menu for £21.50.

Spaghetti Junction is the ideal setting for parties of up to 30 people and is also available for private functions.

It also boasts a Takeaway Service for those who want to enjoy dishes from its A La Carte menu, as well as pizza and pasta, in the comfort of their own home.

The restaurant, situated at 767 London Road, Westcliff (opposite Chalkwell Park), is open from Monday to Saturday evenings from 6pm till late, and is also air conditioned for added comfort during the (hopefully) hot summer months.

For more details, call 01702 473388 or visit www.spaghettijunctionrestaurant.co.uk



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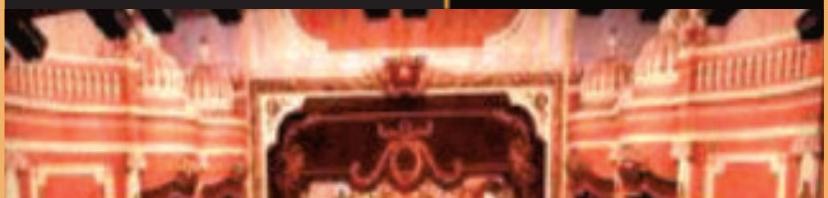
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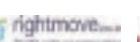
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- think integrity
- think property

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OPEN
HOUSE

Thundersley Guide Price £500,000 - £515,000

Executive Five Bedroom Detached Family Home - Exclusive Chase Development - Deceptively Spacious Accommodation - Lounge 18'10 x 15'3 - Dining Room 12'3 x 11'0 - Study 11'3 x 7'1 - New England Style Fitted Kitchen/Breakfast Room 14'9 x 14'5 With RangeMaster Cooker To Remain - Utility Room 11'3 x 5'0 - Bedroom One 17'1 x 13'11 With Ensuite Shower Room - Bedroom Two 14'10 x 12'7 With Ensuite Shower Room - Bedroom Three 15'3 x 11'0 - Bedroom Four 12'3 x 11'0 - Bedroom Five 12'2 x 7'5 Which Is Currently Fitted Out As A Dressing Room - Five Piece Family Bathroom Suite - Good Size Rear Garden With Sandstone Style Paved Patio To The Immediate Rear - Good Size Side Access Ways - Huge Block Paved Front Garden In Excess Of 60 Being Ideal For Off Street Parking For Numerous Vehicles - Easy Access Of Hadleigh Town Centre - Extremely Sought After Location - King John School Catchment - Viewing Is Essential

01702 555888

Benfleet £300,000

Four Bedroom Detached Family Home - Gas Central Heating - West Backing Garden Approximately 100ft - Lounge 20'2 x 12'5 - Dining Room 11'1 x 10'0 - Kitchen 11'7 x 9'3 - Utility Room 9'6 x 6'7 - Ground Floor Cloakroom - Bedroom One 12'5 x 10'10 - Bedroom Two 12'6 x 10'10 - Bedroom Three 10'9 x 8'11 - Bedroom Four 9'7 x 8'11 - Family Bathroom Suite With Corner Jacuzzi Style Bath - Sole Agents - Convenient Location - Viewing Advised

01702 555888

01702 555888

Sherwood Crescent, Hadleigh £180,000

Attractive Two Bedroom Semi detached Bungalow - Lounge 14'11 x 11'10 - Dining Room 9'2 x 7'11 - Kitchen 13'9 x 7'7 - Bedroom One 11'0 x 9'10 - Bedroom Two 10'0 x 7'10 - Conservatory/Lean To 11'4 x 7'7 - Three Piece Bathroom Suite - Large Rear Garden - Detached Garage 16'7 x 8'0 - General Refurbishment Required Throughout - Extremely Sought After Location - Easy Access Of Hadleigh Town Centre And Local Nature Walks - No Onward Chain - Sole Agents - Keys Held For Accompanied Viewings - Viewings Advised

01702 555888

Hadleigh Guide Price £350,000 - £355,000

Stunning Four Bedroom Detached Family Home - Popular King John School Catchment - Easy Access Of Haldeigh Town Centre, Country Park & Castle - Lounge 17'6 x 13'6 - Study 10'8 x 8'3 - Dining Room 10'7 x 10'0 - Cloakroom - Kitchen 11'1 x 9'9 - Utility Room 8'2 x 5'8 - Bedroom One 14'0 >11'3 x 14'7 With En-Suite Shower Room - Bedroom Two 11'3 x 10'8 - Bedroom Three 10'11 x 8'5 - Bedroom Four 10'1 x 8'5 - Family Bathroom - Double Width Garage With Twin Up And Over Doors 17'3 x 16'3 - Gas Central Heating - Sole Agents - Viewing Advised

01702 555888

Hadleigh £149,995

One Bedroom First Floor Apartment - Extremely Sought After McCarthy & Stone Built Retirement Complex - Lounge 17'5 x 10'11 - Kitchen 7'3 x 7'0 - Three Piece Shower Room - Bedroom 12'2 x 9'0 - Communal Lounge - Communal Laundry Room - Guest Suite - 24 Hour Careline - Communal Gardens - Residents Parking - Extremely Well Maintained - Offered With No Onward Chain - Keys Held For Accompanied Viewings - Sole Agents - Viewing Advised

01702 555888

Notice Of Offer
10 Hall Crescent, Hadleigh, Essex. SS7 2QW. We advise that an offer has been made for the above property in the sum of **£185,000**. Any persons wishing to increase on this offer should notify the agents of their best offer prior to exchange of contracts. Agents Address: **Amos Estates. 319 London Road, Hadleigh, Essex. SS7 2BN.** Agents Telephone Number: 01702 555888

team

Hadleigh Office 01702 555 888
Rayleigh Office 01268 742 742

amosestates.com

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Rayleigh £239,995

An attractive two bedroom detached bungalow ideally positioned for the High Street and mainline station and within the sought after Edward Francis and Fitzwimarc catchment area. The property is offered for sale with no onward chain and benefits from spacious accommodation, detached garage and 63ft rear garden. Scope for extension into roof space (stpp).

01268 742 742



Rayleigh £195,000

A spacious two bedroom semi detached bungalow situated within a sought after cul-de-sac position. The property offers spacious well planned living accommodation benefiting from 20ft lounge, good size kitchen, attractive rear garden, bathroom and separate WC, ample off street parking and garage.

01268 742 742



Rayleigh £242,500

An exceptionally spacious four/five bedroom end terrace family house affording well planned adaptable living accommodation and offering many fine features. Situated in this popular and convenient residential area close to all amenities and within Grovewood and Fitzwimarc catchment area. The property benefits three reception rooms, en-suite to master bedroom, conservatory, shower room, fitted kitchen and garage. Early viewing advised.

01268 742 742



Rayleigh £325,000

Fantastic opportunity to acquire this three bedroom detached Byford built family home positioned within the sought after Rayleigh Primary school catchment area and Rayleigh station & shops. The property stands upon a good size plot with attractive open aspect to rear. We anticipate huge interest and would suggest an immediate appointment to view.

01268 742 742



Rayleigh £475,000

Situated in a delightful tree lined private road in the highly favoured Great Wheateys area is this imposing two or three bedroom detached luxury bungalow. The property affords deceptively spacious beautifully appointed living accommodation including a luxury French Oak fitted kitchen/diner with Neff appliances and a delightful established rear garden with Southerly aspect.

01268 742 742



Eastwood £195,000

A very attractive two bedroom semi detached bungalow positioned within a most sought after area on the border of Rayleigh & Eastwood providing good access into local shopping areas and woodland. Affording good sized accommodation including spacious lounge, conservatory, double glazing and a pretty 45ft rear garden.

01268 742 742



LETTINGS



Benfleet £750 pcm

We are offering these brand new two bedroom ground floor & first floor apartments, offering good size accommodation, juliet balconies with french doors, luxury bathrooms, modern fitted kitchens & communal gardens. These apartments are situated within a convenient location close to Tarpots shopping facilities and A13/A127. Internal viewings highly recommended.

01702 555888

LETTINGS



Southend On Sea - Wick Development £1,350 pcm

Refurbished three/ four bedroom detached bungalow offering spacious accommodation, modern fitted kitchen, outside utility room, conservatory, en-suite, ample off street parking & garage. This property is situated within a very quiet location on the popular Wick development. Viewings strongly advised.

01702 555888



Leigh On Sea £875 pcm

Totally refurbished two bedroom semi detached bungalow located upon the ever popular Belfairs Estate close to local shopping centre and Belfairs Park. The property benefits from having a detached garage & easy maintained rear garden.

01702 555888

LETTINGS



Hadleigh Office 01702 555 888
Rayleigh Office 01268 742 742

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NEW INSTRUCTION



SOUTHCHURCH £139,995

- * In popular residential area close to station, local shops & schools
- * Three bedroom Mid Terrace house * Lounge * Kitchen/Breakfast room
- * Ground floor bathroom * Double glazing * gas central heating * West facing Garden * No onward chain * Ref: ETS4475

MANNERS WAY ESTATE



SOUTHEND-ON-SEA £199,995

- * DELIGHTFUL SEMI DETACHED HOUSE SITUATED ON A CORNER PLOT ON THE POPULAR MANNERS WAY ESTATE * Three bedrooms * Lounge * Dining room * Kitchen * Bathroom & ground floor wc * Garden * Garage * Part double glazed * Gas central heating * Ref:ETS4461

PRICE REDUCTION



SHOEBOURNESSE £309,995

- * SITUATED IN THE FAVOURED THORPEDENE ESTATE IS THIS IMPRESSIVE DETACHED HOUSE WITH GARAGE * Three bedrooms * Lounge * Dining room * Kitchen * Bathroom * Ground floor shower room * Garden * Garage * Off street parking * Double glazing * Gas central heating * Internal viewing recommended * Ref:ETS4445

GREATLY REDUCED



WESTCLIFF-ON-SEA £110,000

- * REDUCED FOR QUICK SALE * NO ONWARD CHAIN * Ground floor purpose built two bedroom flat conveniently situated for Southend Hospital & local bus routes * Lounge * Modern kitchen * Bathroom * Communal Garden * Garage * Parking * Double glazing * Gas central heating * Ref:ETS4450

PRICE REDUCTION



SOUTHEND-ON-SEA £179,995

- * SEMI DETACHED HOUSE ENJOYING A POPULAR RESIDENTIAL LOCATION CONVENIENT FOR PRITTLEWELL MAINLINE STATION AND PRIORY PARK * Three bedrooms * Lounge * Dining room * Kitchen * Bathroom * Garden * Off street parking * Some double glazing * Gas central heating * Ref:ETS4419

PRICE REDUCTION



SOUTHEND-ON-SEA Offers over £167,500

- * GREAT FIRST TIME PURCHASE IS THIS MODERN SEMI DETACHED HOUSE CONVENIENT FOR MAINLINE STATION AND SCHOOLS FOR CHILDREN OF ALL AGES * Three bedrooms * Lounge * Kitchen * Bathroom * En-suite shower room * Ground floor wc * Garden * Parking for two vehicles * Garage * Double glazing * Gas central heating * Ref: ETS4443

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SOUTHEND-ON-SEA £625 pcm

* RECENTLY REDECORATED THROUGHOUT IS THIS WELL PRESENTED GROUND FLOOR APARTMENT SITUATED CLOSE TO PRITTLEWELL MAINLINE STATION * One bedroom * Lounge/ Kitchen * Integrated oven & freestanding washing machine and fridge/freezer * Bathroom * Communal garden * Residential parking * Double glazing * Electric heating * Unfurnished * Ref: R1707



WESTCLIFF-ON-SEA £675 pcm

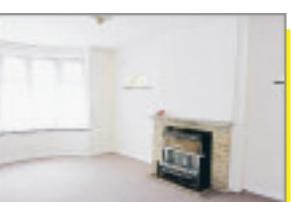
* SOUTH OF THE LONDON ROAD IS THIS FIRST FLOOR FLAT CONVENIENT FOR LOCAL SHOPS AND MAINLINE STATION * Two double bedrooms * Lounge * Kitchen with integrated electric oven and four ring gas hob * Bathroom * Balcony * Direct access to own garden * Double glazing * Gas central heating * Unfurnished * Ref: R1706

SOUTHCHURCH £500 pcm

* WELL PRESENTED APARTMENT WITH FIRST FLOOR ACCOMMODATION AND WITH OWN ENTRANCE * One bedroom * Lounge * Kitchen * Ground floor bathroom with shower attachment * Gas central heating * Double glazing * Own section of garden * Off street parking * Unfurnished * Ref: R1603

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA £575 pcm

* IN CENTRAL TOWN LOCATION * Two bedroom ground floor flat * Lounge * Kitchen with integrated oven * Bathroom * Gas central heating * Direct access to garden * Unfurnished * Convenient for mainline stations * Ref: R383



HOCKLEY £850 pcm

* RECENTLY RE-DECORATED SEMI DETACHED BUNGALOW * Two double bedrooms * Lounge * Fitted kitchen * Shower room/wc * Gas central heating * Double glazing * Garden * Detached Garage * Unfurnished * Convenient for Hockley station & High Street * Ref: R1708



SOUTHEND-ON-SEA £450 pcm

* CONVENIENT FOR STATIONS & TOWN CENTRE * One double bedroom first floor flat * Good sized lounge * Kitchen * Bathroom * Double glazing * Gas central heating * Residents parking - permits available * Ref: R1587

PRITTLEWELL £1,100 pcm

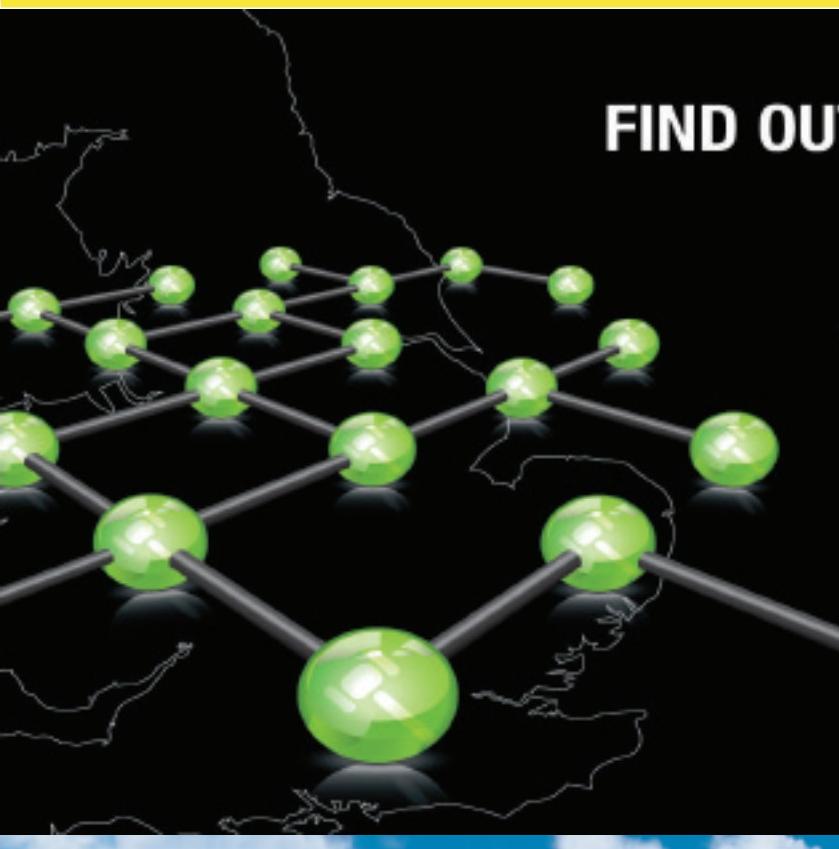
* RECENTLY REDECORATED THREE BEDROOM SEMI DETACHED HOUSE SITUATED IN THE VERY SOUGHT AFTER AREA ON THE EARLS HALL ESTATE * Two double bedrooms * One single bedroom * Lounge/ Diner * Kitchen * Bathroom * Garden * Garage * Off street parking * Double glazing * Gas central heating * Unfurnished * Ref: R462

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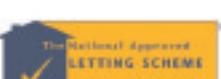


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THORPE BAY BORDERS £339,995

TAKE 5.... Five double bedrooms in luxury three storey linked detached house on favoured new Pegasus development. Three ensuites, two receptions, luxury kitchen and bathroom, south facing garden, garage, close to shops and station. Superb throughout. Ref: ebe2794

Great Value

THORPE BAY £247,500

LOVELY LIFSTAN WAY... Favoured, elevated position backing west. Charming detached 2/3 bed chalet. Garage, carport, newly fitted bathroom, 16'10 kitchen, double glazing, gas central heating. Rare opportunity. Sure to sell swiftly. Early viewing advised. Ref: 2757



SOUTHEND £168,000

POPULAR LOCATION...With three double bedrooms, spacious and nicely equipped family house. Stylish fitted kitchen, modern bathroom, double glazing, gas central heating. Close to shops, schools and amenities. Ref: ebe2776



SOUTHEND £159,995

SURPRISINGLY SPACIOUS... Backing south in popular area close to schools, shops etc, three storey four bedroom family house. 29'3 lounge/diner, 60'0 garden, gas central heating, no onward chain. Lots of potential. Early viewing advised. Ref: ebe2813



SOUTHCHURCH VILLAGE £119,950

TWO DOUBLE BEDROOMS... In favoured Southchurch Village, modern purpose built ground floor apartment. Off street parking, fitted kitchen, refitted bathroom, well presented throughout. close to station, shops etc Ref: ebe2805



TO LET

WESTCLIFF £850 PCM

FIT FOR THE FAMILY.... redecorated and refurbished three bedroom house close to shops, schools etc. New kitchen and bathroom, gas central heating, south backing garden. DSS apps will require working guarantor. Ready in next week or so. Ref: 2807.



SOUTHCHURCH VILLAGE £195,000

SPACE IN SURBITON... Good sized family house in very popular southchurch Village area, close to shops, station etc. Modern kitchen and bathroom, two reception rooms, off street parking, gas central heating. Attractive design. ref: ebe2811



SOUTHCHURCH VILLAGE £152,500

COSY COTTAGE.. In favoured Village area, close to station and shops, a 2 double bedrooms, 2 reception much improved end terrace house. Good decor. Excellent first home at a sensible price. Early viewing advised. Ref: ebe2793



TO LET

SOUTHEND £595 PCM

GREAT VALUE... Two bed first floor apartment with easy access to town centre. Fitted kitchen, allocated parking, economy heating, excellent decor. Working applicants only, please. Lovely example. AVAILABLE NOW! Ref: ebe2561

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Hockley



New Instruction

£335,000



- Internal viewing essential
- Exceptionally spacious accom.
- 2 Reception Rooms
- Luxury fitted Kitchen
- Breakfast area
- 3 Bedrooms

- Ground Floor Cloakroom
- En-suite shower and dressing area
- Family bathroom
- Delightful landscaped secluded garden
- Ref: ESH1468

Hockley £335,000



Just Reduced

- Peaceful setting
- Elevated location
- 1.25 acres
- Lounge
- Kitchen
- 2 Bedrooms
- Ample parking
- Potential to extend
- Enquiries advised
- Ref: ESH1436

Hockley



Open House
Saturday 8th
August 11am to 12pm

£425,000



- Grade 11 Listed
- Dating back to 1675
- Much Charm & Character
- 2 Reception Rooms
- Cottage Style Kitchen
- 4 Bedrooms
- Bathroom/WC
- Double Width Garage
- Delightful Cottage style Garden
- No Onward Chain
- Ref: ESH1462

Hawkwell £340,000



4/5 Bedrooms



Ideal for Investor

Rochford £79,000



Ideal for Investor

Thorpe Bay £165,000



Ground Floor
Accommodation

Hockley £202,000



Offers Considered

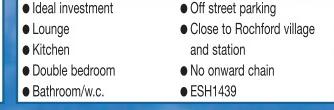
Hockley £379,000



Favoured
Location
Close Station



- Modern fitted kitchen
- Double aspect lounge
- Separate dining room
- Ground floor cloakroom
- 4/5 bedrooms
- 5th Bed/study room
- Family bathroom with shower
- Attached garage
- Our ref: ESH1466



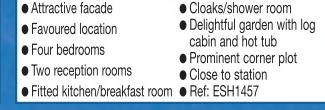
- Ideal investment
- Lounge
- Kitchen
- Double bedroom
- Bathroom/w.c.
- Off street parking
- Close to Rochford village and station
- No onward chain
- Door Entry system
- Spacious Lounge/Diner
- Fitted Kitchen
- Double Glazed
- Attractive Flat Development
- No Onward Chain
- Ref: ESH1439



- Extremely spacious Ground Floor Flat
- 2 Double Bedrooms
- Recently fitted shower room/WC
- Door Entry system
- Detached Garage + Further parking
- Double Glazed
- Attractive Flat Development
- No Onward Chain
- Ref: ESH1461



- Bungalow backing open fields
- 2 large bedrooms
- Lounge/diner
- Fitted Kitchen
- Double Glazed
- Attractive Flat Development
- No Onward Chain
- Fitted kitchen
- Gas heating & double glazing
- Secluded gardens
- Garage & Parking
- REF: ESH1272



- Attractive facade
- Delightful garden with log cabin and hot tub
- Prominent corner plot
- Close to station
- Fitted kitchen/breakfast room
- Cloaks/shower room
- Delightful garden with log cabin and hot tub
- Prominent corner plot
- Close to station
- Ref: ESH1457

team

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Ashingdon

£304,995



Four bedroom detached
Immaculate
Two reception rooms

Ground floor cloakroom
Off road parking and garage
Newly fitted kitchen and bathroom

Canewdon

£169,995



Three bedroom
Semi detached house
15ft Kitchen

Village Location
No Onward Chain
Potential for off road parking

Ashingdon

£315,000



Impressive Detached House
Four Bedrooms
90ft South Facing Garden

Double Garage
Modern Fitted Kitchen
Sought After Location

Canewdon

£169,995



Three bedroom
Semi detached house
15ft Kitchen



Village Location
No Onward Chain
Potential for off road parking

Hockley

£204,995



Two Bedrooms
approx 47ft Wide plot
Detached Garage
11'7 x 11'1 fitted kitchen

convenient location
16'9 lounge
conservatory
viewing advised

Rochford

£164,995



Three bedrooms
Off road parking
L shaped lounge measuring
17'4 max x 17'7 max

Ground floor cloakroom
Gas central heating
Double glazing

Ashingdon

£84,995



One Bedroom
Retirement Apartment
Ground Floor



Direct Access To Communal Gardens
Modernised Throughout
Sole Agents

Rochford

£189,995



Two Bedrooms
Garage and parking
Fitted Kitchen

Sole Agents
Gas central Heating
Sought after location

Rochford

£259,995



Four bedroom
detached
Fully refurbished
Integral garage

No onward chain
PX Possible
Garage

Rochford

£209,995



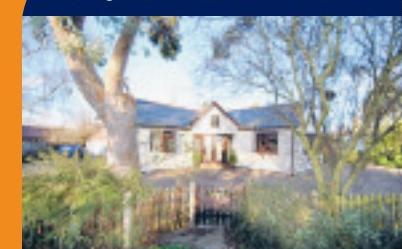
Detached Bungalow
Two Double Bedrooms
Requires Modernisation



UPVC Double Glazed Conservatory
70x40ft Rear Garden
Off Road Parking for Several Vehicles

Ashingdon

Offers in Excess £439,995



Three bedroom
Two reception rooms
Spacious Conservatory

Ground in excess of
half an acre
Fitted kitchen
OSB and garage



SHOEBURYNESS

£156,950

Sorrell are delighted to offer for sale this three bedroom mid terrace family house offering spacious ground floor living accommodation. The property benefits from full gas central heating, as well as detached garage. Kingfisher Close is situated within the sought after birds estate close to Asda. Offering early vacant possession.

- Lounge
- Three bedrooms
- Dining Area
- Bathroom/wc
- Kitchen
- Detached garage
- Conservatory
- Rear garden

SOUTHEND ON SEA

£184,995



We are favoured with instructions to offer for sale this vacant three bedroom semi detached family house offering two reception rooms. The property benefits from majority newly installed double glazing and gas central heating along with newly installed kitchen and bathroom. The property overlooks Victory sports ground.

SOUTHEND ON SEA

£177,500



Being situated within a central location and popular area of Southchurch is this three bedroom semi detached family house. The property has the added advantage of full double glazing and gas central heating along with off street parking and benefits from offering early vacant possession.

CLIFFTOWN CONSERVATION AREA Offers over £130,000



An immaculately maintained second floor purpose built apartment offering two spacious bedrooms and a good size lounge/diner opening onto a balcony with Estuary glimpses. The property offers a modern fitted kitchen and an attractive retro style bathroom. There is also no onward chain.

WESTCLIFF ON SEA £895 pcm



Immaculate and spacious three bedroom first and second floor maisonette offering the advantage of attractive balcony with views towards Estuary. Trinity Avenue is situated within the heart of the sought after Shorefield Conservation area and is close to all amenities

SOUTHEND ON SEA £325 pcm



Small rear studio flat situated within central Southend, newly installed kitchen with four ring electric hob and oven and grill under and recess for washing machine and recess for upright fridge/freezer, small living room with fitted cupboard, small bedroom with hanging rail, bathroom/wc with shower over bath, electric heating.

SOUTHEND ON SEA £475 pcm



Attractive ground floor flat situated within a sought after location of Southchurch, full gas central heating, majority of double glazing, spacious lounge, double bedroom with dressing area, fitted kitchen with plumbing and recess for washing machine, recess for electric /gas cooker, bathroom/wc, own front garden.

MILTON CONSERVATION AREA £1,300 pcm



Being situated within the sought after Milton Conservation Area is this attractive and character spacious family home. The property offers good size living accommodation including two separate reception rooms and also benefits from five double bedrooms with the master bedroom having a en-suite shower room/wc. Further bathroom/wc and shower room/wc on the second floor. Park Road is situated within the sought after Barons Court school catchment area and also has the added advantage of off street parking.

BENFLEET £500 pcm



Being situated within a central location is this attractive apartment with lounge incorporating kitchen including oven and hob, washing machine and up right fridge/freezer. There is a double bedroom, modern bathroom/wc and the property is double glazed. There is a small front balcony off the lounge and communal parking to the rear.



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OFFICE INVESTMENT

£795,000



Located in Basildon, this two story office building arranged over ground and first floor totalling approx 7,087 sq ft. The building is currently part let producing £37,500 PA held on 3 separate leases with the potential income totalling £75,000 when fully let.

SHOP FOR SALE L/H £120,000



Positioned in Leigh Road, this ground floor retail shop with approx 500 sq ft of trading area with 300 sq ft of storage/office space. To the rear is a kitchen, toilet and office/storage area. The shop is currently being refurbished, with new electrics, new ceilings with spot lighting and redecorated throughout.

RETAIL

£25,000 pa



This retail unit forms part of Southend's Victoria Shopping Centre, situated on the ground floor in a prime location giving 762 sq ft to a shell condition. The Victoria boasts retailers such as Next, Boots, New Look, Wilkinson and Argos.

RETAIL

Price on application



An unique opportunity has arisen to be part of the iconic Kursaal building on Southend on Sea seafront, whose tenants include London Club Casinos, Tenpin Bowling and Tesco Express. This A3/A5 unit measuring 2,908 sq ft has recently been refurbished to a shell condition with access on to the street and also internally to the Kursaal Rotunda.

RETAIL

£6,750 pa



Situated on a prominent corner position at the junction of the A13 London Road and Southbourne Grove, immediately opposite Chalkwell Park. The retail unit measures 457 sq ft with a double display window and sink area to the rear.

INDUSTRIAL UNIT TO LET £13,500 pa



Located just off the Ashingdon Road, Rochford with easy access to the A127. This Industrial unit measuring 3,921 sq ft consists of main warehouse area with two offices to the front of the building, rear storage and parking to the front.

OFFICE

£8.50 per sq ft



Dencora Court comprises a 5 storey purpose built office building, currently providing open plan office space on two floors. With 9,890 sq ft on each floor, which can be split into smaller offices as required and some floors offer superb views of Southend, the Thames Estuary and beyond.



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FISKS

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OPEN HOME Sunday 7th August 10:30am - 11:30am

3 Pine Close, Canvey Island, Essex, SS8 9JL

Three Bedroom Semi Detached House, Good Size Open Plan Kitchen Diner, Conservatory, Large Garden, Close To Local Schools & Shops, Quiet Location, Garage And Off-Street Parking

£169,995



OPEN HOME Sunday 7th August 12:30pm - 1:30pm

134 Church Parade, Canvey Island, Essex, SS8 9RD

Detached Bungalow, One Bedroom, Larger Than Average Plot, Carport, Off Street Parking

Guide Price £130,000 - £140,000

Call Fisks Benfleet 01268 565555



OPEN HOME Sunday 7th August 2pm - 3pm

74 London Road, Benfleet, Essex, SS7 5TJ

Three Bedrooms: Two Double, One Single, South Facing Garden, Central Location, Garage, Family Accommodation

£199,555



OPEN HOME Sunday 7th August 3:30pm - 4:30pm

9 Gowan Close, Benfleet, Essex, SS7 5SE

3 Bedrooms, Approx. 87ft West Backing Garden, Double Length Garage, Cul De Sac Location, No Onward Chain

£229,995

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WESTCLIFF

£135,000

FIRST FLOOR FLAT ~ CHARMING CHARACTER PROPERTY ~ OWN REAR GARDEN ~ SPACIOUS WITH THREE BEDROOMS



BENFLEET

£194,995

TWO BEDROOM BUNGALOW ~ 60FT WEST FACING GARDEN ~ RECENTLY RE-DECORATED ~ FITTED KITCHEN ~ NO ONWARD CHAIN



BENFLEET

£219,995

THREE BEDROOM BUNGALOW ~ 70FT GARDEN BACKING WOODLAND ~ PROPERTY HAS BEEN EXTENDED TO PROVIDE A 27FT LOUNGE



BENFLEET

£295,000

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- * Extended luxury kitchen/breakfast room
- * Cloakroom
- * Three bedrooms
- * Luxury bathroom with separate cloakroom
- * 70ft landscaped garden
- * Double length garage
- * Upvc double glazed



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HADLEIGH £315,000

- * Located in quiet cul-de-sac
- * King John school catchment
- * Detached family home
- * Four double bedrooms, 2 with en-suites
- * Lounge to front
- * Separate dining room
- * 19' kitchen/diner
- * Ground floor cloakroom
- * Separate family bathroom
- * Independent driveway & garage
- * No onward chain



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AGENTS



THUNDERSLEY £225,000

- * Located in a sought after turning, enjoying un-interrupted views over Thundersley Common
- * Three bedroom semi detached house, Ground floor shower room, Bright dual aspect lounge/diner, Fitted kitchen overlooking the rear garden, Upgraded 1st floor specie family bathroom, UPVC double glazing, West facing rear garden



OPEN DAY
6TH AUGUST 2011
10AM TO 12PM



SOLE
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Leigh-on-Sea £142,000

- * South of the London Road & within 1/4 mile of Leigh Broadway,Ground floor flat
- * Upgraded bathroom,Two double bedrooms,Lounge overlooking communal gardens, Well fitted kitchen, Parking to rear for residents & guests, No upward chain



SOUTH BENFLEET £245,000

- * OPEN DAY SATURDAY 6TH AUGUST 2011 10AM-12PM
- * Semi detached house
- * Short walk to station
- * Three bedrooms
- * Spacious kitchen/diner
- * 26' lounge
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- * Modern bathroom suite
- * Study/sitting room
- * 100' garden
- * Parking for several cars
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DAWS HEATH £385,000

- Sought after location in the Daws Heath area
- Immaculately presented & spacious detached family home
- Five double bedrooms
- Master with en-suite
- Spacious entrance hall
- Lounge with feature fireplace
- Separate dining room
- Well fitted & modern kitchen
- 26' conservatory
- Second lounge/sitting room
- Ground floor cloakroom
- Utility room
- 1st floor 4pce modern bathroom suite
- Beautifully landscaped rear garden
- Garage



UNEXPECTEDLY
REAVAILABLE
SOLE AGENTS



BENFLEET £209,995

- Located in a quiet "no through road"
- Lounge to front
- Luxury kitchen/diner
- Two double bedrooms
- Upgraded 3pce 1st floor bathroom
- Refitted 3pce ground floor shower
- 90' West facing rear garden
- Large summer house
- Independent driveway & garage space

SOLE
AGENTS



HADLEIGH £279,000

- Located in popular location close to Hadleigh town centre
- Well presented L-shaped character fully detached bungalow, Spacious hallway
- Two double bedrooms, en-suite to master, Spacious L-shaped lounge/diner
- Well fitted kitchen/diner, 60' x 50' rear garden, parking for four vehicles, Garage

NEW ON
MARKET
SOLE AGENTS



HADLEIGH £125,000

- Immediate proximity to Hadleigh town centre, spacious split level maisonette
- Dining room, modern kitchen with integrated oven, hob & hood, modern 3pce bathroom
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- * Two bedroom mid terrace house
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- * Fitted kitchen with oven and hob



SOUTHEND £875 pcm

- * Three bedroom semi-detached house
- * Lounge with feature wrought iron fireplace
- * Dining room with french doors



SOUTHEND £540 pcm

- * One bedroom ground floor flat
- * Close to seafront
- * Allocated parking



LEIGH ON SEA £550 pcm

- * One bedroom first floor flat
- * Modern fitted kitchen
- * Own garden



LEIGH ON SEA £950 pcm

- * Large two bedroom flat just off Marine Parade
- * Two double bedrooms one with fitted wardrobe
- * New fitted kitchen with white goods
- * New three pce suite with shower over bath
- * Garage and Communal Gardens
- * Available Now



HADLEIGH £1,350 pcm

- * Four bedroom detached house
- * Large lounge with patio doors to rear garden
- * Fitted kitchen with white goods
- * Utility room
- * Available October 2011
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London property prices edge higher

Property prices in central London reached a record high in July, fuelled by growing demand from overseas nationals, particularly Europeans, seeking to escape economic instability back home, according to a new Knight Frank report.

The strong capital growth recorded in central London could have a positive impact on the rest of the capital, as some market experts see now as the start of another cyclical upturn in property prices. Historically, property price growth in central London has rippled out to other parts of the city and its outskirts, such as Essex.

The property consultants said that the median price of a London home costing an average of £3.7 million appreciated by 9.6 percent in July compared to the same month last year.

The report suggests that the euro-debt crisis that led to bailouts for Greece, Ireland and Portugal and now threatens other nations, such as Spain and Italy, has encouraged more Europeans to buy property in London, where there are a number of new homes being built to meet growing demand.

Noel Flint, head of London residential at Knight Frank, comments: "Once again the main reasons for high strength demand in the prime central London market are the overseas purchasers and low stock levels. In the last month our offices have seen more interest from buyers from continental Europe, possibly due to the ongoing Eurozone crisis as well as London providing a more cosmopolitan lifestyle."

Sterling's weakness against other major currencies has also attracted more foreign buyers to the capital. The latest Bloomberg Correlation-Weighted Indexes shows that the UK pound has fallen by an average of 22 percent against other developed-market currencies, as measured by Bloomberg Correlation-Weighted Indexes, since the housing market's previous peak in March 2008, making a home in London more affordable for overseas buyers.

International demand for homes in London was also supported by purchasers from the Middle East, as they attempted to add to their property portfolios before Ramadan starts this month.

Flint continued: "Middle Eastern buyers have, as always, been key to the market, but with an early Ramadan their time spent in London has been shortened, but we do expect to see a second window in early September as they continue their search for a London property while enjoying the cooler climate."

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It's probably best to engage an accountant to ensure that you get this right. In future years you might feel confident enough to go it alone. You should keep your accounts and tax return details for 6 years.

Other records that are distinct for landlords also need to be kept by law. Specifically, you need to keep the gas safety certificates for your property and ensure that they're all up to date. You must keep the gas safety records for a minimum of two years but you might want to keep them for longer especially if the tenancy is ongoing.

You'll also want to keep other documentation relating to the tenancy. Things like the tenancy agreement and an inventory should be kept for the duration of the tenancy and until everything at the end of the tenancy is resolved.



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ASK THE AGENT ALAN KIRKMAN



ALAN KIRKMAN is Director of Essex TEAM - part of the UK's largest branded network of independent estate agents, with 50 computer-linked offices across the county and 500 more nationwide. Managing Director of Tudor Estates in Southend, Alan has been an Estate Agent for over 25 years.

Q. What is the Green Deal all about?

A. This is the Government's new flagship energy conservation project. With around a quarter of the UK's total carbon emissions coming from the energy used in our homes, and much of the existing housing stock still woefully inefficient in terms of energy consumption, the Green Deal is designed to help homeowners by giving them access to up to 10,000 pounds-worth of energy-related improvements, recommended and approved by specially-accredited assessors.

The essence of the plan is that, rather than having to pay upfront for all the insulation, double-glazing or whatever is deemed necessary, the cost will instead be repaid through higher energy bills over a period of 25 years – subject to what the Government describes as The Golden Rule, which says that the savings made through greater energy efficiency must be greater than the cost of the improvements required. Crucially, the loan is tied to the property – which means that if it is subsequently sold, repayments will continue to be made by the new owner.

Another key feature of the scheme is that it will be funded by the business sector, rather than by Government. A number of major retailers are already planning to start selling insulation products and other home energy improvements under it. Indeed, one well-known DIY chain recently went a step further with the acquisition of a firm specialising in the training of Domestic Energy Assessors and the provision of Energy Performance Certificates.

With the first Green Deals scheduled to appear in the Autumn of 2012, the whole thing sounds like a rather good idea. Except for the fact that the necessary legislation has been delayed, and won't now get onto the statute books for months. There is also growing concern in some quarters over the commercialisation of the whole thing, with fears that DIY firms, utility companies and supermarkets could exploit it to sell their own products – as recommended by so-called "impartial" advisors who could actually be their own employees!

It also remains to be seen, of course, how the existence of a Green Deal – with the ongoing financial obligations that go with it – might affect a property's saleability...

Still, let's not be churlish. After all, it's all in the cause of saving the planet – isn't it?

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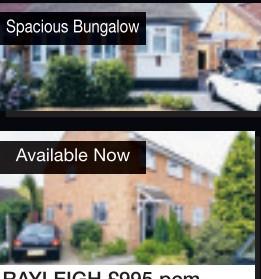
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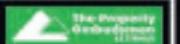
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Vehicle shown is New Cruze 2.0 VCDi LTZ featuring metallic paint at an extra cost of £410. Offer available to individuals for orders received between 1st July 2011 and 30th September 2011. *Figures based on a non-maintenance contract hire package over 48 months and 6,000 miles per year (max). An advance rental of £2,508 is payable, then 47 monthly rentals of £209. Rentals and excess charges are based on the current VAT rate. An excess charge of up to 8.71ppm for Cruze LS will be applied for mileage in excess of 6,000 miles p.a. Excess charges also apply if the car is not serviced and maintained in accordance with manufacturer guidelines and returned to Chevrolet Leasing in a condition commensurate with the BVRLA Fair Wear & Tear guidelines for its age and mileage. Package includes R.F.L. and Chevrolet Assistance. Free metallic paint is only available in conjunction with Chevrolet offer and applies to selected models only. Offer subject to availability and status. UK supplied vehicles only. For full specification, details, terms and conditions contact your local Dealer. Guarantee and/or indemnity may be required. Applicants must be 18 or over. Details correct at time of publication and may vary, eg if list price changes. Personal contract hire by ALD Automotive Ltd., trading as Chevrolet Leasing, Oakwood Park, Lodge Causeway, Fishponds, Bristol BS16 3JA. 5 year warranty up to 100,000 miles, expires whichever occurs first. This offer includes Chevrolet's standard Customer Care Commitment of a 2 year unlimited mileage manufacturer's warranty, and third year manufacturer's warranty with a 60,000 mile limitation. Years 4 and 5 are an insurance-backed warranty up to a maximum of 100,000 miles. The warranty excludes wear and tear and serviceable items and the vehicle has to be serviced in accordance with the manufacturer's servicing schedule. Calls may be recorded and monitored for training purposes.

Official Government Environment Data. Fuel consumption figures mpg (litres/100km) and CO₂ emissions (g/km). New Cruze 1.6 LS Hatchback: Urban - 31.7 (8.9), Extra Urban - 54.3 (5.2), Combined - 42.8 (6.6). CO₂ emissions 153g/km.

road test

Citroen follows the optimum path

by Andy Enright

THE Citroen DS4 offers a stylish twist on the family hatch theme and in THP 155 guise it offers a tempting alternative to the more pragmatic diesel-engined versions. With its winning blend of extrovert styling and a competitive petrol powerplant, could this be the optimum DS, maybe even the optimum Citroen?

Niche marketing has a lot to answer for. As an excuse for bringing intrinsically unpopular items to market, it has its critics. Every once in a while, these products designed to appeal to a few eccentrics break out into mainstream

success. Does that make them niche marketing failures? Who would have ever predicted that fixed gear bikes would become so popular? Once the preserve of hipsters in tight vintage-style jeans, check shirts worn with a hoodie, Vans sneakers and oversized sunglasses, they're now built by the big companies and are in your local bike shop with smugly inflated price tags.

Citroen hasn't been slow to recognise this phenomenon and its DS sub-brand appeals to those who wish to be seen as a little edgy but maybe don't want to stomach the sacrifices that come with fully embracing the radical. Call it hipster-lite. Its DS3 was a hot

hatch with a bit of attitude and now there's the DS4. It's like the 'after' shot on a family hatch makeover promo.

The DS4 is offered with a choice of five efficient Euro 5 engines. The three petrol powerplants - the VTi 120, the THP 155 driven here and the THP 200 - were all co-developed with BMW. Two diesel engines - HDi 110 and HDi 160 - are fitted with Citroen's Diesel Particulate Filter System, which virtually eliminates particle emissions. The 1.6-litre THP engine has a solid pedigree, too. It's also the result of the link-up between Peugeot and BMW which saw the two marques pooling resources to produce

a range of compact powerplants. BMW doesn't entertain bad engines and the 1.6 THP is fitted to the high performance models in its MINI range, so the portents for this DS4 were good from the start. It's a strong, flexible and refined performer, able to propel the DS4 to 60mph in 9 seconds and running onto a top speed of 133mph.

I'm still trying to figure out how any vaguely coupe-shaped car with such an unusual relationship between length and height can emerge as pretty as the Citroen DS4. In traditional design terms, it shouldn't work. It should look dumpy and ill-proportioned but the DS4 appears squat, aggressive and taut. Hats off to designer Olivier Vincent. The interior isn't quite so special, but don't blame Sean Johnson, the interior stylist for that. He has created some wonderful dash top finishes for the car which really set it apart, but Citroen's UK importers have decided that British buyers aren't prepared to pay for them and have given us more boring alternatives instead.

Still, there are plenty of other touches that can be appreci-

ated. The fascia dials are quite cool and the way the windscreen takes a hefty bite out of the roofline is a very nice touch. The 'bracelet' leather seats which resemble a watch strap in their interlinking cushions are also very classy.

What's not quite so clever is the fact that the boldly-shaped rear side windows don't go down or hinge out. Style should come with a little sacrifice,

are the most economical units in the DS4 range and the frugality reaches quite heady heights if you choose the e-HDi version of the 110 which returns a combined consumption of 64.2mpg. For a car with petrol running through its pipes, though, the THP 155 does all right, posting a combined figure of 43.5mpg which equates to 149 g/km of CO₂.

In fusing radical design with eminently sensible engineering, Citroen has created an intriguing and attractive proposition with the DS4 THP 155. It looks for all the world as if it has just driven off a motor show stand, but the mechanics are all tried and tested stuff and your day to day outgoings while running one will be less than some superminis.

The only nagging doubt I have with the DS4 is that cars that are suddenly in vogue can just as suddenly find themselves out of favour. For about five minutes back in 2003 the Chrysler Crossfire was a seriously hot ticket. Seems hard to believe now, doesn't it?

I suspect the DS4 has enough about it to appeal as something more than a mere fashion statement, but time will be the final arbiter there. In the meantime at least, Citroen should be applauded for resolutely refusing to follow the herd.



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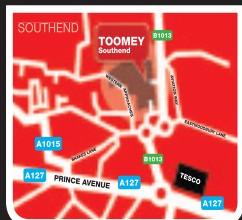


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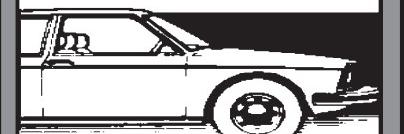
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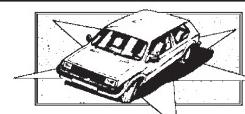
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MAMAS & PAPAS, 3-IN-1 PLIKO PUSHCHAIR, car seat & carrycot, grey & black, good condition, £50. MAMAS & PAPAS, PINE CHANGING TABLE, fits on top of cot, excellent condition, £15. MAMAS & PAPAS, STANLEY SNAIL ROCKER, as new, £35. RECLAIMED PARQUET FLOORING, fit area approx 8ft square, £40ono. Tel: 01702 588581.

BABY BUGGY, black with red trim, as new, max weight 15kg, five point harness, steel harness, folds flat, linked brakes, shopping basket, two trays for drinks/toys, rain cover, black fleece lined waterproof cover, £45. FRENCH DESIGN WOODEN HIGHCHAIR, converts to low chair & table, £10. LARGE BEIGE GARDEN PARASOL on tall weighted stand with raincover, £20. TALL BEECH EFFECT DISPLAY CABINET, two glass doors, four removable glass shelves, display lighting, 6ft 5in tall x 2ft 7in wide, £50. TUBULAR SUN LOUNGER, used once, green striped deep buttoned cushions, 6ft long x 2ft wide, adjustable multi-position head rest, folds flat, could be used as child's first bed, £35. Tel: 01702 477419.

MODERN BIRCH DISPLAY CABINET, excellent condition, glass shelving & top doors with down lights, enclosed bottom shelving, approx 6ft 6in x 1ft, £100. MODERN VICENZA THREE DRAWER DRESSING TABLE, excellent condition, accept £100. BUSH 14IN SILVER REMOTE INTERNET TV, excellent condition, hardly used, £40. Tel: 01702 525262

SLUCH POD XT INTERACTIVE GAMING CHAIR, silver/black/silver trim bean bag with back support. Fully compatible with all major gaming devices including Xbox, wii and ps3. Built in audio system with 3 internal speakers. UK AC power adaptor, ll Tel: 07941725931

SILVER METAL SINGLE HIGH SLEEPER BEDFRAME, very good condition, space under bed for cupboards/desk, etc needed when space is limited. £50. HEADBOARD FOR DOUBLE BED. Silver metal. very good condition. Very nice curved cross-pattern £10. GLASS DINING TABLE with silver legs. Size: 135cm x 80cm £50 Tel: 07788 452565

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DRESSING TABLE Good quality Traeosa Pine 6 drawer Dressing Table with bun feet (Similar Argos Pg1138 No4) W53" D17" H27" very good condition £60. TALLEBO Cupboard with 2 drawers. Large sturdy 1950/60s painted wood cupboard. Needs re-painting hence price H49" W33" D19" £20 Tel: 01708 459043

LAURA ASHLEY TWO PAIRS FULL LENGTH CURTAINS, lined, swags, tails, pelmet, blue, £100 per set. Next, three plus three white SHAKER STYLE MERCHANTS CHEST DRAWERS, £70. Next, two plus three white SHAKER STYLE TALL CHEST DRAWERS, £65. COMPOST BIN, 8cu.ft, plus lid, £10. MAHOGANY GLASS LAMP TABLE, £35. PAIR SOLID CARVED MAHOGANY BEDSIDE CHESTS, £50 each or £95 pair. 5FT MEMORY FOAM MATTRESS, still wrapped, £80. LAURA ASHLEY RUG, burnt sienna, £70. SENSAFOAM, 5FT DIVAN BED WITH DRAWERS, good clean condition, (one broken drawer), £90. Tel: Canvey £1268 511849.

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COSATTO PACIFIC CRIB & MATTRESS £50ono. BABY BJORN BABY CARRIER, £50ono. Tel: 07939 151366.

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DIVORCED lonely single mum, blue eyes, employed, OHAC, lots of interests, looking for someone to enjoy life with again. Any age/looks. Tel No: 0906 500 6358 Box No: 371553

SEXY brunette 39, petite, brown eyes, seeks energetic discreet guy for no strings fun and friendship. Age/status unimportant. Tel No: 0906 500 6358 Box No: 371551

SLIM attractive lady looking for male who appreciates naughty, sensual fun. Can travel/accommodate. Tel No: 0906 500 6358 Box No: 366007

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ATTRACTIVE petite oriental female with no ties WLTM nice respectable man for a loving relationship. Can accommodate. Tel No: 0906 500 6358 Box No: 371577

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ATTRACTIVE slim lady, striking green eyes, long blonde hair, likes animals, nights in/out, WLTM experienced male for fun friendship/relationship. Tel No: 0906 500 6358 Box No: 371573

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VERY good looking Turkish female looking to meet male 29-45 for fun friendship. Looks/race/status unimportant. Tel No: 0906 500 6358 Box No: 370183

ACTIVE solvent female with GSOH looking to start life again but this time be a lot more adventurous, care to join me? Tel No: 0906 500 6358 Box No: 370181

CONFIDENT fun female bored of spending time alone, looking for fun man to share lots of laughs and good times. Tel No: 0906 500 6358 Box No: 370177

ACTIVE slim female 30yrs, easygoing, honest with GSOH and a passion for life looking for genuine man to fall for, 28-50s. Tel No: 0906 500 6358 Box No: 370091

BUSTY size 10, figured female, brown hair, big brown eyes 41yrs looking for relaxed relationship with younger man, 20-38ys. Tel No: 0906 500 6358 Box No: 370111

ATTRACTIVE slim professional 35yrs seeking similar lonely professional for drinks/meals out and mutual friendship out of hours. Tel No: 0906 500 6358 Box No: 370089

DIVORCED very lonely single mom, young looking, slim, attractive, WLTM similar male for companionship. Age/looks>Status unimportant. Tel No: 0906 500 6358 Box No: 370023

PETITE 37yr old nurse with no ties looking for someone nice to spend some romantic time with, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 6358 Box No: 370107

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Athlete Dale aims for his Olympic dream

Athletics

A YOUNG athlete from Canvey Island is appealing for sponsors to help him work towards his goal in becoming Olympic champion.

Dale Clutterbuck, 19, runs for Basildon Athletics Club and competes in the 1500m and 3000m.

Trained by former Olympian and Commonwealth Games champion, Rob Denmark, Dale will be competing in the Under-20 3000m at the Aviva London Grand Prix meeting at Crystal Palace, held tomorrow and Saturday.

The meeting will feature some of the world's best athletes, including 100m Olympic champion and world record holder, Usain Bolt.

Dale said: "It's going to be a great experience and I can't wait to show what I'm all about and show myself to runners at the world level. This will also be my first race in front of thousands of spectators."

The middle distance runner has several medals to his name, winning silver in the UK School Games



TRAINING HARD: Dale Clutterbuck takes part in an On Camp with Kelly training session.

championship in Bath in 2008, and bronze medals in the English Schools Championship in 2009 and 2010, all in the 1500m.

This year, Dale has taken wins in the Essex County Championships in Chelmsford over 800m and 1500m.

His personal best in the 1500m this season is 3:48.55, 1:53.50 in the 800m while in the 3000m, it cur-

rently stands at 8:35.84.

"I will be going into the race expecting a medal and hopefully to win," said Dale. "But at this level everyone is as good as each other and its all about who is the cleverest on the day and who gets their tactics right."

"I have benefited hugely from Rob's coaching. Talking to Rob is a

privilege in itself so to be trained by a former world beater is an inspiration and gives me great belief that one day I can be one of the best in the world."

Dale, who has recently been on a training camp held by Olympic champion, Dame Kelly Holmes, in Tonbridge Wells, says representing Great Britain at London 2012 is a long shot, but is looking towards the 2016 Olympics in Brazil.

He said: "Everyone says 'are you going to the Olympics?' but I don't think anyone quite understands how it all works and the selection process.

"I will be only 20 years old but of course I will be giving it my best shot to get my spot."

"2016 is the one I believe I can get to and hopefully win a medal."

"I have just come off from a training camp with Kelly Holmes for five days and am now getting to the stage where I need to get some sort of funding or help in some way."

If you wish to help sponsor Dale, you can get in touch via e-mail on declutterbuck@hotmail.com

Have you got a sports story? Call the Sports Desk on 01268 503400 or fax us on 01268 503480. You can also e-mail us at Sport@YellowAd.co.uk

West Ham United

Iron pick up victory

IT was all smiles at West Ham United on Saturday following their impressive 2-0 pre-season win over Real Zaragoza at Upton Park.

New signing Matt Taylor and Freddie Sears scored the goals for Sam Allardyce's men and the Hammers now look towards the start of the season when they play Cardiff at home on Sunday.

New signing Joey O'Brien featured after joining the club after being released by Bolton Wanderers at the end of last season.

The 25-year-old Republic of Ireland international made his first-team debut for Bolton in 2004 under Allardyce and can play in either defence or midfield.

Also featuring for the Irons on Saturday was full-back Jlloyd Samuel.

The former Aston Villa and Bolton player is on trial for the club and impressed assistant boss Neil McDonald.

He told the club's website: "First impressions were really good. Jlloyd has got a good pedigree and a good CV, so we've got him in, trained him for a couple of days and got a good look at him on Saturday."

"I think the performance showed that there's no hangover, but at the same time it's vital we concentrate on Cardiff next week and make sure we get the same performance as we got on Saturday."

American Football

Spartans in play-offs

ESSEX Spartans American football team booked a place in the Division Two East end-of-season playoffs with an emphatic 75-10 destruction of divisional rivals Maidstone Pumas.

The Billericay-based Spartans knew that only a win would see their season continue following their loss to Kent Exiles the previous weekend, and after a slow start, the team put in a dominant performance to cruise to their seventh victory of 2011.

The team must now wait to learn whom they will face when they return to action on Sunday, August 28.

Blues look to season opener after two goalless friendlies

Southend United

SOUTHERN United picked up two goalless draws in their latest pre-season friendlies as they prepare for the new season which kicks off on Saturday.

The Blues showed well in their match against Premiership newcomers Norwich City last Thursday night, and were held by near neighbours Canvey Island from the Ryman Premier League.

Wanstead hold two-point lead as top two draw

Shepherd Neame Essex Cricket League

Premier Division

THE title race is hotting up with both the top two holding out for draws on Saturday.

Leaders Wanstead still have a two point advantage over Brentwood but both sides struggled against the bottom two sides who turned the form book on its head.

Bottom side Loughton declared on 314-7 against Wanstead, with Bilal Butt hitting an unbeaten knock of 132, backed up by Rizwan Sadiq's 73.

An inspired Butt then did damage with the ball, taking 6-86, as Wanstead struggled in their chase, but they managed to hang on with a wicket to spare on 239-9.

Brentwood were also made to work for their draw at Chelmsford, who remain in the drop zone.

Chelmsford's Nick Prowting was the backbone of their innings, scoring 116 as they declared on 275-8, which proved a difficult task for last year's champions.

Michael Pollard (60), James Redwood (49) and Max Osborne (49 not out) scored well for Brentwood, but Rob Hayto took 6-33 for Chelmsford

as Brentwood hung on at 241-9.

Colchester & East Essex closed the gap to the top two thanks to their comfortable six wicket win at Hainault & Clayhall, who were bowled out for 123.

Fourth place Ilford won by seven wickets at Ardleigh Green who hover above the relegation zone.

Abir Chippa took 5-85 for Ilford as Ardleigh put up 241-9, opener Thomas Oakley scoring 63.

Ilford's opening pairing Gagan Bholgal (111) and Nigel Jacob (94) made it an easy task for their side to reach the target.

South Woodford came out on top by two wickets against Woodford Wells, who were all out for 146 with Andrew Richardson's 53 any innings of note.

However, it was not all plain sailing for South Woodford who just reached their target thanks to Max Shirt's unbeaten knock of 44.

Division One

BUCKHURST Hill remain in control at the top thanks to their seven wicket victory over Orsett.

Carlos Remy took 7-56 as Orsett were all out for 189, Phil Landman scoring 54.

Openers Gordon Whorlow (47 not out), Russell Beckett (98) and Jamie

Allen (37) saw Buckhurst comfortably home.

Shenfield hold the other promotion place in second after their five wicket win over Chingford.

Shahbaz Butt's unbeaten 118, backed up by Nick Shawyer (60) and Alfie Taylor (50) put Chingford in a decent position on 285-6.

But a sixth wicket partnership between Shenfield's Tom Austin (62 not out) and Matt Salisbury (71 not out) helped Shenfield to overhaul their total, Arshad Ali also contributing with 56.

Third place Upminster are two points behind Shenfield following their seven wicket win over fourth place Hadleigh & Thundersley in a high scoring encounter, while Fives & Heronians won by four wickets over bottom side Gidea Park & Romford.

Asif Iqbal (78) helped Gidea Park to 226 as Rahul Bhome took 6-68, but Fives had Ben Britton to thank with an unbeaten 82 to steer his side home.

Horncastle edged out strugglers Harold Wood by just five runs.

They declared on 259-7 with Paul Murray Jnr (72) Chris Sains (68 not out) and Billy Gordon (62) hitting respectable scores while Rizwan Qureshi took 5-101.

In a nail-biting chase, Wood just missed out despite decent knocks by

Qureshi (74) and Richard Brabner (52) as Richard Sherlock took 5-53 for Hornchurch.

Division Two

SOUTHEND-on-Sea & EMT extended their lead at the top to three points, despite not being in action.

Walthamstow's exclusion from the league means they picked up the points.

Harlow are in second after beating Stanford Le Hope by five wickets.

Christo Otto's was the mainstay of the Stanford innings, hitting an unbeaten 77 as his side were bowled out for 129, Ahmed Khawaja taking an impressive 4-9 in a four over spell.

Harlow comfortably made their total, with Haris Afridi scoring 57, although Gary Sanderson bowled well for Stanford, taking 3-33.

Leigh-on-Sea lead the chasing pack in third after seeing off near neighbours Westcliff-on-Sea by 79 runs, with Westcliff's Sean Elliott (5-91) and Leigh's Ben Leyshon (7-28) producing stand out performances.

Wickford produced a stunning 142-run victory at Horndon on the Hill after bowling them out for just 57.

Daniel Pryke (4-31), Asif Abbas (4-12) and Jamie Went (2-9) did wonders with the ball to protect Wickford's

score of 199.

Horndon's Liam Hubbard also picked up useful figures of 6-86.

Strugglers Hutton had something to cheer about, winning by 33 runs over Old Southendian & Southchurch, Naeem Iqbal taking 5-49.

Division Three

BELHUS are the new leaders thanks to their 30 run victory at Old Parkonians.

After declaring on 256-2 thanks to scores from Gavin Jefferies (105 not out) and Joe Joyce (70 not out), Belhus' bowlers Dale Kenyon (4-66), Connor Day (3-65) and Owen Jefferies (3-58) made the Old Parks batsmen toil, although opener Hermes Solomonides scored 52.

Previous leaders Basildon & Pitsea are still level on points in second, despite going down by five wickets at home to West Essex, who go third.

Basildon were removed quickly for 182, while the West Essex batsmen scored consistently to reach their target, Gareth Jenkins hitting an unbeaten 54.

Epping caused a shock, beating Benfleet by seven runs, although the visitors did only play with ten men.

Woodford Green won by nine wickets at bottom side Ongar, while Old Brentwoods and Billericay played out a draw.

Southend, Leigh, Shoebury Yellow Advertiser



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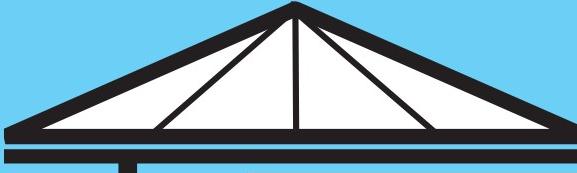
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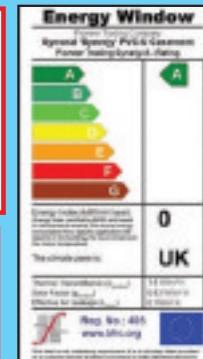
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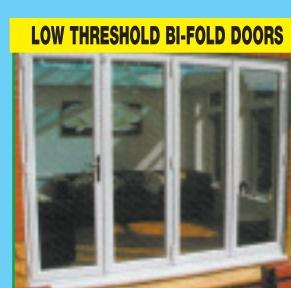
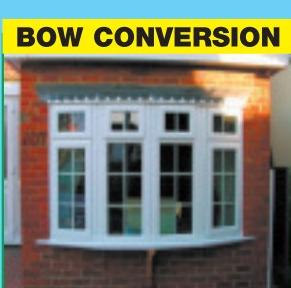
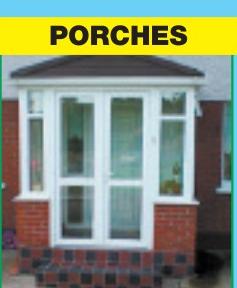
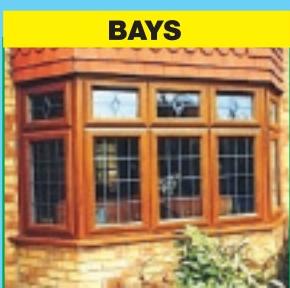
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